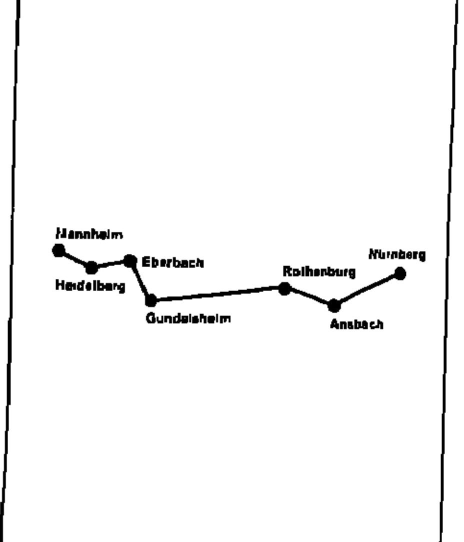
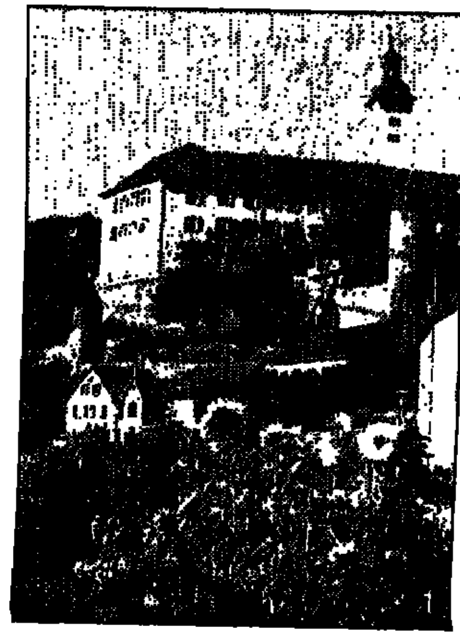
Routes to tour in Germany



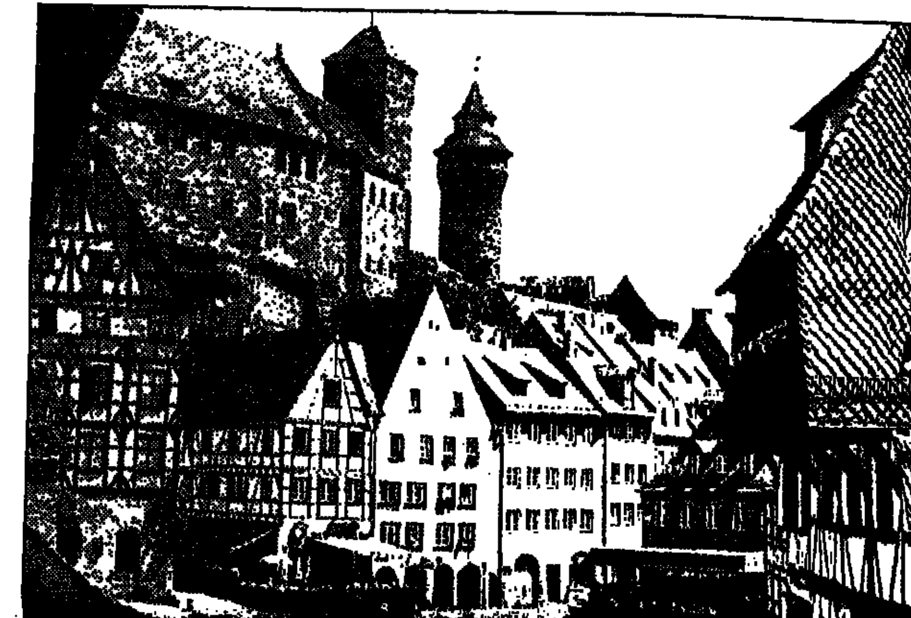
The Castle Route

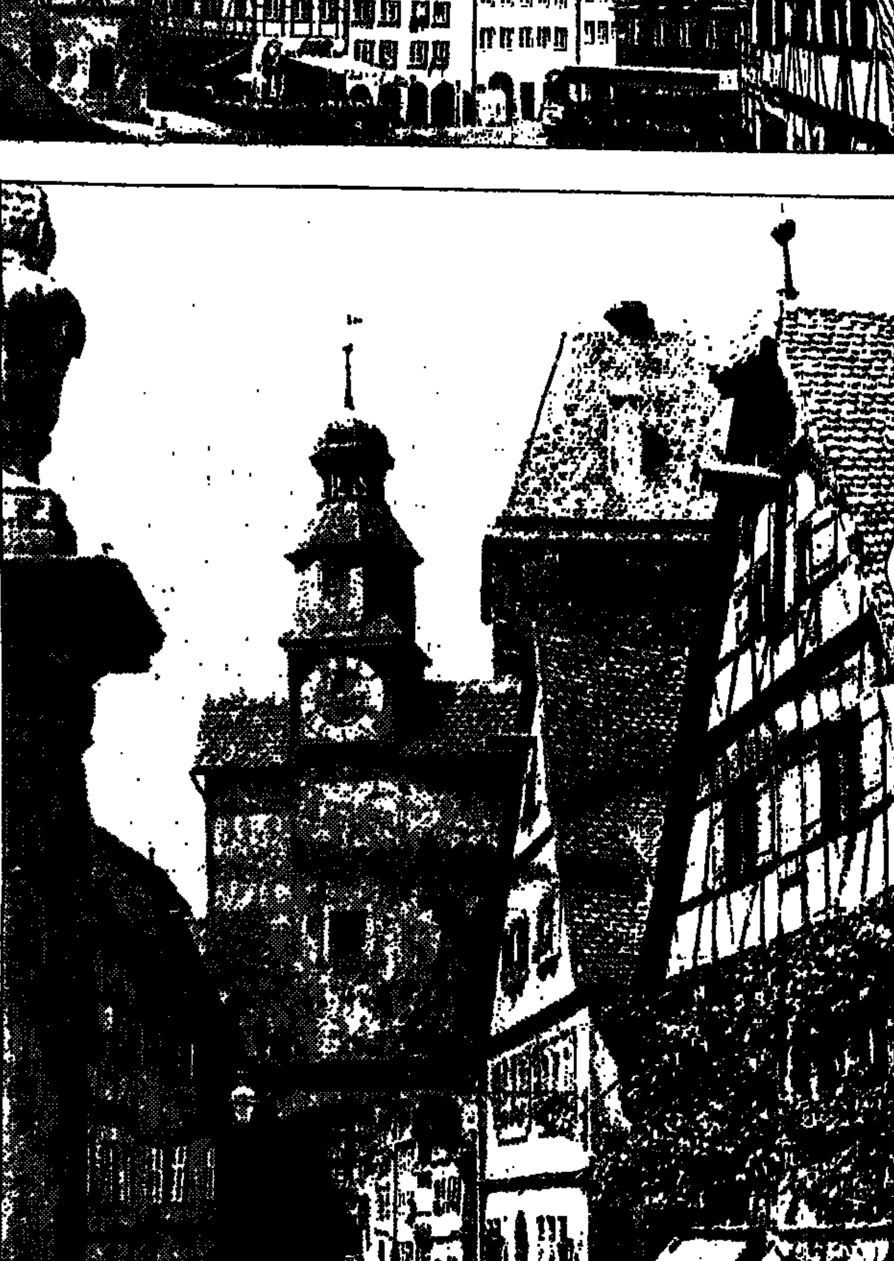


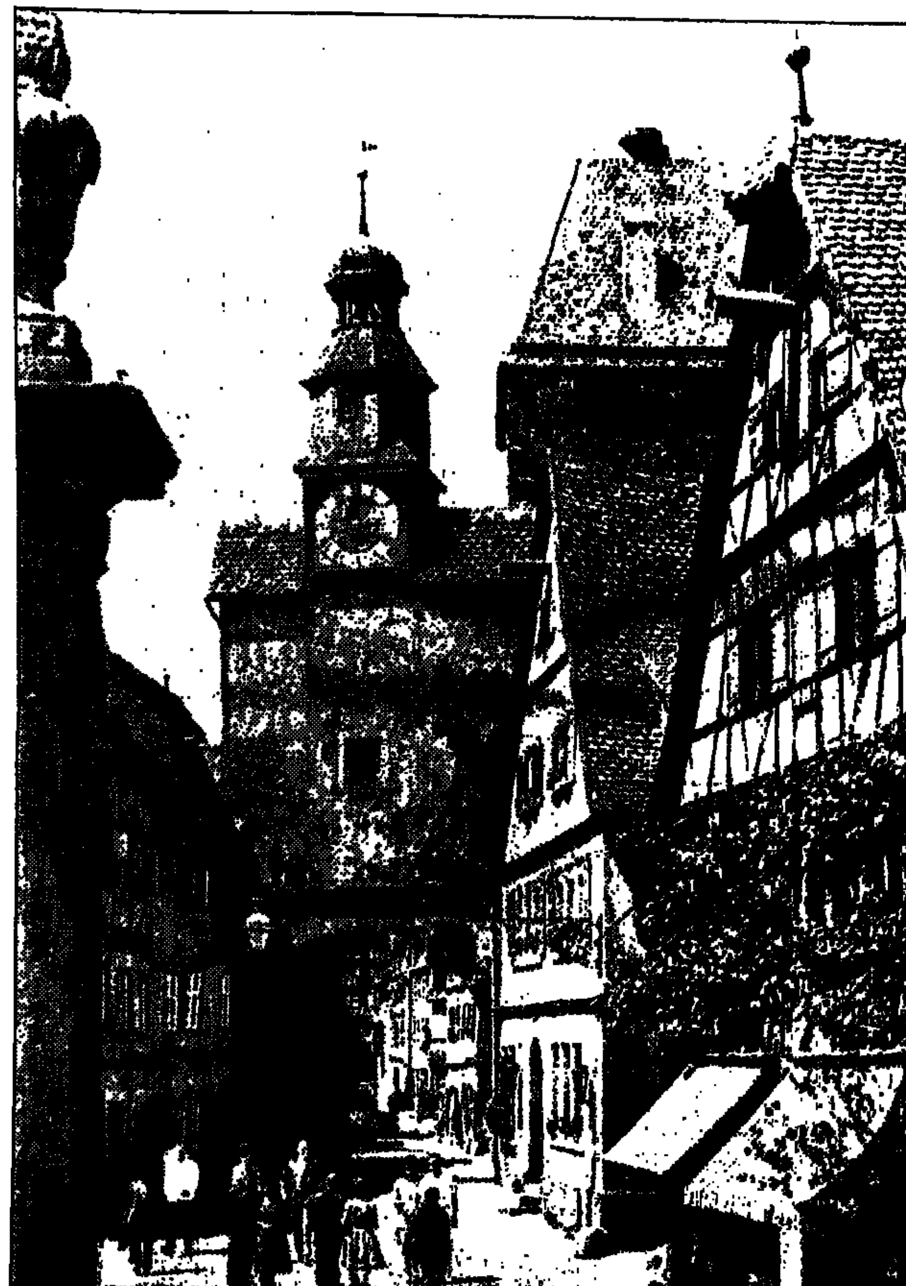
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The Castle Route is 200 miles long. It runs from Mannheim, an industrial city on the Rhine with an impressive Baroque castle of its own, to Nuremberg, the capital of Bavarian Franconia. The tour should take you three days or so. We recommend taking a look at 27 castles en route and seeing for yourself what Germany must have looked like in the Middle Ages. The mediaeval town of Rothenburg ob der Tauber is intact and unspoilt. Heidelberg is still the city of the Student Prince. In Nuremberg you really must not miss the Albrecht Dürer House.

Come and see for yourself the German Middle Ages. The Castle Route will be your guide.



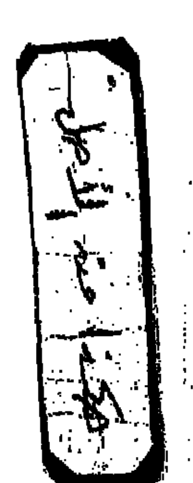






1 Gundelsheim/Neckar
2 Heidelberg
3 Nuremberg
4 Rothenburg/Tauber





The German Tribune

Hamburg, 3 May 1987
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The allies try to find a consensus on missiles

Süddeutsche Zeitung

When the Gods want to punish us, wrote Oscar Wilde, they answer our prayers. It is no coincidence that *Time* magazine quoted the Irish playwright and with Europe in mind.

The superpower talks on a zero option for medium-range missiles in Europe may have been resumed in Geneva but at the time of writing the consultations between the United States and its European allies on including short-range missiles in a "super-zero" option are more important.

By offering to include longer-range intermediate missiles in the zero option Mr Gorbachov has fomented disagreement in the North Atlantic pact on how to preserve peace in Europe.

Disunity splits not only Nato but also governments and parliaments. Views differ in Bonn on missile ranges, while in Washington, on Capitol Hill, the US Congress is at least more fundamentally reappraising Nato strategy or whether Europe is "naked" without a certain category of nuclear arms.

Yet the Americans could do nothing more stupid than to allow themselves to be incited against their allies by the Soviet leader's sarcastic "what are you afraid of?"

The superpowers may be facing each other at the Geneva conference table, but the United States has to bear Europe's justified security interests in mind if it is to preserve Nato.

Nothing upsets America's European partners more than the idea that Washington and Moscow might be negotiating over their heads. Yet they are chary of making contributions of their own toward the superpower dialogue.

At present they seem primarily to be confused by the way in which Mr Gorbachov has twice acceded to their demands.

This confusion may be salutary in that it leads to a reappraisal of Nato's flexible response strategy, a strategy that jokers have summarised as follows:

"Nato strategy is to fight one hell of a fight for three days, then to blow the world to bits."

In theory it consists of making the deterrent credible by impressing on the Soviet Union that it must expect US strategic weapons to be used in the event of a Soviet invasion of Western Europe. The credibility of this strategy is greater when there are Western systems to match, as far as possible, each and every Soviet arms category.

In practice there has never been any such thing as exact and accurate "pairing" of all systems.

In stationing Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in Europe Nato sought to establish a counterweight to Soviet SS-20 medium-range missiles, but Nato never had any intention of drawing level with the Warsaw Pact in short-range missiles.

If agreement is reached on a zero option for medium-range missiles, is there any point in starting an arms build-up of short-range systems with a view to disarmament in that category too? Not, it must be said, as matters stand.

If Mr Gorbachov really is prepared to include shorter-range (500-1,000km) intermediate missiles in the zero option as demanded by the Europeans, then he is surely making the first move in this respect.

The Americans have no systems in this range other than the six dozen ageing Pershing 1a missiles maintained by the Bundeswehr but with nuclear warheads kept under US lock and key.

Even if these missiles were to be included in an agreement (and this has not yet been demanded), Nato would still stand to benefit from the scrapping of 140 modern Soviet SS-12s, SS-22s and SS-23s.

In the past the lack of missiles in this category has not been considered a threat to Nato strategy. Why should a Soviet offer to dispense with them now constitute a threat?

Nato would have only one option. It must first develop and deploy the new missile, a shorter-range version of the Pershing 2, for instance.

Yet is Bonn really prepared to run this domestic and foreign policy risk, especially as missiles in this category are already stationed in Germany?

Even the Americans see no reason for establishing parity in this category — other than by total disarmament.

Flexible response would begin in earnest with tactical nuclear forces with a range of up to 500km. The deterrent will remain credible for as long as the Russians must expect Nato to go ahead with first use of nuclear weapons.

Yet they are well aware how doubtful a prospect first use is, which is why they are increasingly equipping their own tactical missiles with modern conventional warheads.

Initially, however, Mr Gorbachov wants only to talk about tactical systems. On this point Nato must not only hold open the option of drawing level with Soviet weapons superior in number but also insist on talks extending to approximate conventional parity.

This is essential because tactical weapons blur the borderline between nuclear and conventional devices.

A strategy of this kind could force Mr Gorbachov to play his cards in the suit in which his hand is weakest.

Dieter Schröder
(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 24 April 1987)

Page 2: Divided opinion in Nato about how to play the missiles poker game

From Russia with health

Cooperation in the field of heart disease is one of the main points in a German-Soviet medical agreement signed in Moscow by Bonn Health Minister Rita Süssmuth (left) and Soviet Health Minister Yevgeni Chasov (right). (Photo: dpa)

Bonn decides to wait and see zero-option small print

WESTDEUTSCHE ALLGEMEINE

Bonn has decided to wait and see the small print of the Soviet proposal for a zero option on shorter-range missiles in Europe before making up its mind about it.

With the text likely to be submitted soon in Geneva, that would seem to make sense.

But it is merely gaining time. The decision, reached after Cabinet talks, does no more than paper over the dispute in the coalition.

The Bonn government has spoken clearly on the zero option proposal for medium-range missiles. It ought to be just as clear on other nuclear weapons.

The formula used by Chancellor Kohl in his government policy statement and in his letter to President Reagan — equal ceilings at a lower level — is too vague.

It ought logically to include the zero ceiling proposed by Mr Gorbachov, but some members of the Bonn Cabinet would sooner station new short-range missiles so as to strike a balance.

It would be dangerous if a serious and lasting imbalance were to arise at any stage of disarmament. So individual weapon categories cannot be seen in isolation; they must be seen in an overall context.

But fears of Europe being denuclearised that are now being voiced more and more openly do not make sense.

Nuclear weapons on German soil mainly serve two purposes. The first is to help offset the conventional superiority of the Warsaw Pact and the strategic disadvantage of the Federal Republic's location.

The second is to ensure that US forces remain stationed in Europe. The United States is only going to keep troops in Europe if they have nuclear weapons at their disposal, or so we have time and again been told.

This second purpose is nullified by the Americans themselves proposing to dispense with nuclear weapons in Germany.

Doubts about the first purpose could be eased and eliminated if the Soviet Union was prepared to agree to "asymmetrical" disarmament and thus to reduce its superiority.

These are surely the arguments to be fielded by a government that has as its stated aim peace and detente by means of fewer and fewer weapons.

Siegfried Maruhn
(Westdeutsche Allgemeine, Essen, 28 April 1987)

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■ WORLD AFFAIRS

Divided opinion in Nato about how to play the missiles poker game

Missile disarmament talks have been resumed by the US and Soviet delegations in Geneva, but in Nato and in the Federal Republic of Germany argument rages over Mr Gorbachov's "second zero option" proposal. In the crossfire of debate the facts seem more and more elusive, and the complex rules of the game almost defy the common man's comprehension.

The larger the missile, the easier arms control seems to be to negotiate and the less dispute there seems to be about it.

That would appear to be a rule of thumb in the game of missile poker — at least on terra firma, as it were, and strictly excluding outer space with its uncertain military future.

The stakes in the poker game now intensively under way between the superpowers in Geneva and among the Western allies consist of land-based medium- and short-range US and Soviet missiles stationed in Europe.

The various solutions proposed can roughly be arranged in four categories:

- longer-range intermediate nuclear forces, or missiles with a range of between 1,000 and 5,500km;
- larger intermediate nuclear missiles with shorter ranges of between 500 and 1,000km;
- smaller intermediate nuclear missiles with shorter ranges of between 150 and 500km;
- and short-range or theatre nuclear weapons, tactical missiles with a range of less than 150km.

Clarity is greatest at the upper end of the range. There no longer seems to be more than the slightest disagreement in East or West about the zero option for longer-range intermediate nuclear forces in Europe.

Does that, perhaps, mean matters are straightforward in this category?

It consists of just over 450 Soviet SS-20 missiles with about 1,300 nuclear warheads aimed at targets in Western Europe from sites in the Soviet Union.

The corresponding weapons in Western Europe are the 108 Pershing 2 and 464 cruise missiles with a total of 116 launching systems stationed by the terms of Nato's twin-track missiles-and-talks decision.

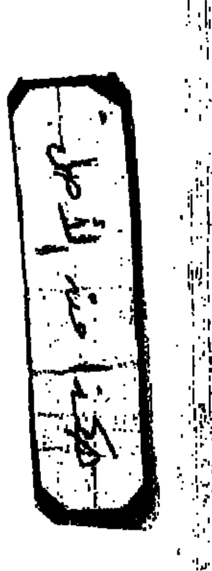
As so far agreed, the Soviet Union would be allowed to retain 100 warheads, or 33 missiles, as part of this zero option.

That would leave a little over 400 SS-20s, with about 1,220 warheads, to be scrapped in the East and all 108 Pershing 2s and 464 cruise missiles in Western Europe, totalling 572 warheads.

The superpowers are keen to sign an agreement on this missile category as soon as possible.

The second category is more problematic, disarmingly straightforward though Mr Gorbachov's proposal to scrap missiles with ranges of between 500 and 1,000km may sound.

The idea may sound simple but it is hotly disputed in the West. The facts are that the Soviet Union has about 100 SS-12s and SS-22s with ranges of up to 950km and 30 SS-23s, a more modern missile with a range of 520km stationed in European Russia.



The Americans have no longer had any missile in this category based in Europe since they withdrew their Pershing 1a missiles (with a range of 750km) and replaced them with Pershing 2s.

The Bundeswehr still has 72 Pershing 1a missiles. They are 20 years old and their nuclear warheads are kept under US lock and key.

Mr Gorbachov's proposals for this category are as follows:

- As soon as agreement is reached on the first, longer-range category the 50-odd SS-12s and SS-22s stationed in East Germany and Czechoslovakia in response to Nato missile deployment will be withdrawn.
- If agreement is reached on the second stage of the zero option (agreement on this category), Moscow will scrap all 130 SS-12s, SS-22s and SS-23s listed above.

The West would not need to take any action. The Americans have no missiles in this category stationed in Europe, while the six dozen Bundeswehr Pershings would be classed as third-state systems.

Counted out

In other words, like British and French nuclear forces they would not count in the disarmament tally agreed between the superpowers.

Does that make the arrangement a brilliant disarmament deal for the West? Far from it, or so many strategists say. They include Bonn Defence Minister Manfred Wörner and many fellow-Christian Democrats who specialise in security policy.

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

The reason why is to be found one rung further down the ladder, in the third missile category.

It is that the proposed zero option would leave missiles with ranges of less than 500km unscathed, and Soviet missiles in this category would, by sheer force of geography, be limited to targets in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Soviet medium- and short-range missiles aimed from Warsaw Pact countries at targets in the West would thus pose a special threat to the Federal Republic.

Put in a strategic nutshell: "The shorter the range, the more German the effect."

To ease the burden of this special threat to the Federal Republic some Western strategists would be happy to see the Soviet Union retain a number of missiles in the 500-1,000km range and capable of reaching targets in other countries in Western Europe.

The chief counter-proposal, emanating from Bonn, is for the West to reject this "second" zero option and suggest instead a joint ceiling at a lower level than the number of missiles currently stationed.

The Soviet Union might, for instance, retain 50-80 of its present 130 SS-12s, 22s and 23s. In return the United States would be entitled to station 50-80 missiles in this category — presumably in the Federal Republic.

America doesn't have missiles in this range stationed in West Germany or anywhere else in Western Europe at present, so that would mean a second round of US missile deployment.

This second round would be as good as certain, there being little point in negotiating the option and then not taking it up.

The Americans would be likely to do so. Like Bonn Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher, they tend to favour the second zero option but would be most reluctant to accept unnecessary imbalances if it were not to come about.

They are even less likely to do so in view of the fears of nuclear decoupling by the United States and of having to forgo the deterrent strategy that are widespread in connection with plans for nuclear disarmament in Europe.

Supporters of the zero option say such fears are totally unfounded. "Super-hawk" Richard Perle of the Pentagon did not mince words. "The United States," he said, "is not going to leave its allies to stand naked in front of the Soviet Union."

Limitation

Even if the zero options were to go ahead there would still be 4,600 US nuclear warheads stationed in Europe.

That is because, even if atom bombs and nuclear missiles on board aircraft (F 111s) and submarines are disregarded, the zero option neither applies to nor is envisaged in the shorter-range categories.

Western estimates are that in the 150-500km range there would be nothing but Soviet missiles: 600 Scud Bs with a range of up to 300km, dating back to 1961 and clearly being phased out.

In the under-150km range Soviet missiles would also prevail numerically, consisting of 780 Frog 7s and SS-21s.

But Nato has 88 Lance missiles in this category, to which 32 French Plutos must be added. So must the Bundeswehr's 72 Pershing 1a missiles not covered by the second zero option and adding to the Western nuclear deterrent.

Friends and foes of zero options alike, all European governments — and the US administration — take most seriously the argument that progressive nuclear disarmament in Europe would enhance Soviet conventional superiority and heighten the *risk* of conventional warfare.

That is why Bonn has just given pride of priority to the preliminary talks between Nato and the Warsaw Pact in Vienna on a balance of conventional power.

But that is another, and doubtless no less protracted, chapter in the European disarmament tale.

Thomas Meyer

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 24 April 1987)

Economy is Alfonsin's challenge after soldiers' rebellion

Even now the officers' insurrection at the Campo de Mayo infantry training camp near Buenos Aires is over, unrest among officers in the Argentinian armed forces does not by any means appear to have been quelled once and for all.

"Loyal" troops having been reluctant to move in against the mutineers, President Alfonsin courageously ventured into the lion's den and succeeded in

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

stabilising the situation — for the time being — without bloodshed.

Despite assurances to the contrary the head of state seems likely to have made certain concessions to the coup officers and further military pressure will be exerted on the democratic government to ensure that the President is as good as his word.

The unexpected readiness of political leaders to make concessions may have whetted the officers' appetite. Their rebellion was triggered by the criminal proceedings against members of the armed forces who were to blame for the disappearance of thousands of members of the Argentinian Opposition, for torture and for other human rights violations during the "dirty war" waged against left-wingers in the 1970s.

Middle-ranking officers who saw themselves as simply obeying orders and are now being brought to justice feel they have been left in the lurch by their superior officers.

They demand a reshuffle in the Army leadership. The replacement of the unpopular chief of the general staff, Rios Erenu, by General Caridi is not, as they see it, enough.

So Argentina's fledgling democracy faces a serious test of strength, the most serious since the junta plunged the country into economic ruin and the Falklands debacle and the Army finally had to return to barracks, discredited and disliked, and hand over to a democratically elected government in 1983.

Such hopes as there remain of a happy end to this trial of strength are based on the impressive show of solidarity by the public, the trade unions and all political forces in Argentina with the democratically elected government.

President Alfonsin's political future will, however, depend in the final analysis on how he succeeds in handling the country's economic and social problems. Western democracies could lend him a hand.

(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 22 April 1987)

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■ HOME AFFAIRS

A smooth start for the new Hesse Premier

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

Walter Wallmann, the new Christian Democrat Premier of Hesse, even managed to get one vote from a member of the SPD Opposition when the assembly in Wiesbaden met to decide on the new man at the helm.

This somehow shows the size of the wave Wallmann is riding following an election victory in April which threw the Social Democrats out of power after 40 years.

Wallmann has now shown just how quickly and smoothly a government programme can be worked out with a coalition partner — in this case the FDP.

The former coalition of Social Democrats and Greens spent most of their time squabbling. In contrast, this coalition has reached agreement harmoniously.

Wallmann's policy statement showed that he wants to maintain continuity; he even steered clear of the idea of a *Wende*, a change.

He cleverly referred to the transition of power in Hesse as if it were quite a normal occurrence.

But of course it is anything but that. The election has put an end to a long era of SPD government either alone or in coalition.

This is an historical hiatus in the history of both the SPD and the *Land* of Hesse.

Wallmann has achieved what another Christian Democrat, Alfred Dregger, failed to do several times in the 1970s: seize Hesse, the "Red Stronghold", from the Social Democrats.

Legendary figures such as Georg August Zinn, who once made Hesse a "red model state" as an alternative to the power of the CDU and CSU in the other *Länder*, are past history.

Wallmann himself will do his utmost to ensure that the old SPD motto *Hessen vorn* (Forward with Hesse) is translated into political action. His prospects look good.

Under the various SPD-led governments Hesse has advanced to become the state among the spread-out West German states with the highest per capita GDP figure.

Hesse's growth rates match Baden-Württemberg's and Bavaria's. Unemployment there is much lower than the national average. Half the nation's direct foreign investments comes through the *Land*, not perhaps surprising as Frankfurt, its biggest city, is Germany's banking centre. The Social Democrats created the conditions for further growth by doing things like extending both facilities and runways at Frankfurt airport — despite heavy opposition — to improve the city's position as an international centre. It is against this background of an up-and-coming, indeed flourishing, state — contrasting with some of the other states which still have SPD-led governments, such as North Rhine-Westphalia and the Saarland — that the true significance of the dramatic loss of electoral confidence in the SPD becomes clear.

Wallmann knows how fully to use the opportunities he is offered. Since autumn 1982 Hesse has had every possible kind of Red-Green collaboration.

Looking back on this period it is remarkable how patiently voters put up with the aberrations of the SPD for so many years and how apparently inconceivable they felt Hesse without an SPD government was.

When Wallmann was Mayor of Frankfurt, Wallmann made sure the city was given a good press.

He re-established the reputation the city deserves, a reputation which the SPD built up and then gambled away.

In Frankfurt he made the cultural and educational policy pursued by the SPD and strongly criticised by his party his own and thus cleverly moved beyond party-political constraints.

The new Hesse premier helped Chancellor Kohl decisively on two occasions.

His appointment as Environment Minister in Bonn following the Chernobyl disaster last year helped make sure that the CDU stayed in power in the state election in Lower Saxony. The Lower Saxon victory paved the way for the trend reversal in favour of the Bonn coalition parties up until the general election.

Wallmann's success has put an end to the discussions about the poor performance of the CDU/CSU at the general election, the many empty coalition agreements, the rather disappointing start for Chancellor Kohl in his election as Chancellor by the Bundestag and the growing debate over the Chancellor's abilities.

The outcome of the election in Hesse and the demonstration of effective cooperation between CDU and FDP are bound to have an effect on the state elections in Hamburg and Rhineland-Palatinate on May 17.

Understandably, the coalition parties will be spurred on by their success in Hesse, whereas the SPD will tend to be paralysed.

Wallmann has helped his Chancellor and party chairman out of his difficulties and achieved something many thought unachievable.

The significance of such a politician extends far beyond his office as state premier. As long as Helmut Kohl governs in Bonn, Wallmann will be able to strengthen his position in Hesse.

When the Kohl era comes to an end, however, attention will turn to Wallmann himself.

Adrian Zielcke

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 24 April 1987)

New Hesse Premier Walter Wallmann (left) is congratulated by outgoing Environment Minister Joschka Fischer (Greens) in the assembly. (Photo: dpa)

Worries about casual public attitudes towards politics

The SPD's business manager, Peter Glotz, is not the only politician who sees a growing lack of interest in traditional forms of democratic participation.

He thinks many young people are unreceptive to the messages of the established political parties.

His concern is about how to prevent people from "silently and conspicuously staying away from democracy".

His worry was shown in a book he wrote called *Kampagne in Deutschland* (Campaign in Germany).

It is a collection of his political views and observations between 1981 and 1983.

Since it was published last year, Glotz might have become even more worried in view of the increasingly gap between politics and the population. And not only the young.

There are many direct clues to this gap. For example in the slogan *Politik ist nicht alles* (Politics is not everything) put out by the SPD's leading candidate in the Lower Saxon state election, Gerhard Schröder. That was no whim, it was a clear message.

The SPD's candidate for chancellorship in the general election, Johannes Rau, also played the role of a politician who was not typical of Bonn politicians.

Helmut Kohl in 1976 and Franz Josef Strauss in 1980 tried much the same thing, but Rau was much more systematic.

Another sign of this alienation is the census. Its content has become so harmless that grounds for objection are minimal.

But the mistrust caused by the controversy surrounding it could influence voters in the political centre who are not so worried about the census in itself.

The general election turnout was also indicative of growing political lack of interest (84.4 per cent).

Although it was still higher than in most comparable countries the turnout figure was the worst in the Federal Republic of Germany since 1953.

It is also clear that, contrary to popular opinion, the drop of almost five per cent in comparison with the corresponding general election figure in 1983 cannot be explained away by simply referring to the wintry conditions.

Political scientist Rainer Olaf Schultze felt that the drop was a signal of "growing scepticism towards the election as the most important element of representative-democratic and conventional participation".

One of Schultze's findings, that political interest on the whole is increasing despite the growing disinterest in traditional forms of political activity, seems to be rather contradictory.

Both surveys and day-to-day experience have shown that it is comparatively easy to increase the degree of political involvement if, particularly at lower levels, the political objectives promoted are comprehensible and not obfuscated by professional politicians.

Werner Remmers (CDU), for example, talks of a "revitalisation of local communities".

People are not generally fed up with politics or the state. In fact, public opinion research shows that the government institutions have a relatively high and stable reputation.

It is above all political parties which have lost their public appeal, in particular via their activities in Bonn.

The man in the street need only switch on his TV on an election evening to watch the traditional *Bonner Runde*, a programme in which the chairmen of the parties represented in the Bundestag discuss the respective election outcomes, to discover what Peter Glotz calls "the inner lifelessness of the Bonn culture", which, he says, "is only enlivened by emotive words".

Politicians, political scientists and journalists have repeatedly listed the individual reasons for the increasing derogation of the party-political apparatus in Bonn.

These include the self-complacency and self-service mentality of the parties, the various affairs (Kiessling, party funding, Neue Heimat) and the inability of the parties to take appropriate steps following events such as the pollution of the Rhine.

The journalist Hans Heigert (*Süddeutsche Zeitung*) has described the general mood as one of "fundamental mistrust", although this is often marked by a certain degree of lachrymosity.

The findings of one survey shows that three out of five people feel that elections are superfluous and that election promises lack any credibility, a result which clearly indicates a deeply-rooted mistrust.

To put it another way: the majority of voters do not feel that they are being taken seriously by political parties.

The intelligentsia assumes the role of multiplier in this process of estrangement, both with regard to general mistrust and lachrymosity.

At the beginning of the year, for example, the weekly magazine *Der Spiegel* ran an interview in which both the interviewer (Horst Karasek) and the interviewee (the author Hans Magnus Enzensberger) promptly agreed that the politicians currently in power in the Federal Republic of Germany are a sorry-looking bunch.

Admittedly, the interview itself showed that both Karasek and Enzensberger knew very little about, and in some cases were not even interested in, political issues and procedures.

Members of the intelligentsia, however, are not the only ones to be riled by what politicians do or fail to do.

The very way in which certain politicians confirm that there is growing mistrust and then fail to ask themselves what the reasons for this mistrust might be tends to create or widen the gap between political parties and the people they represent.

The feeling of not being able to really achieve anything by voting or via other forms of political activity is not just a result of the propaganda of a few die-hard Green fundamentalists, but of practical experience.

At the same time an in all probability typically German demand for unconditionalness is a significant factor in this context, an inclination to constantly expect too much of or underestimate politics (Remmers).

Many people then tend to forget that there may be alternatives to various patterns of behaviour and objectives but not to politics as a whole.

Rudolf Grosskopff

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, Hamburg, 26 April 1987)

■ GERMANY

Lots of toings and froings across the border

Relations between the two German states seem to be flourishing again despite the decision of East Berlin's leader, Erich Honecker, not to visit West Berlin for the city's 750th anniversary.

There is a lot of contact at other levels. Shortly after the general election in January, Minister of State Wolfgang Schäuble of the Chancellor's Office visited Herr Honecker in East Berlin.

Then Günter Mittag, of the East Berlin politbureau, visited Chancellor Helmut Kohl in Bonn.

Bonn Economic Affairs Minister Martin Bangemann, Bavarian Premier Franz Josef Strauss, Baden-Württemberg Premier Lothar Späth and senior FPD politician Wolfgang Mischnick all met Herr Honecker either at the trade fair in Leipzig or in East Berlin.

In Bonn, Bangemann, Strauss and Hans-Jochen Vogel, FDP, CSU and SPD leaders respectively, met Herr Mittag.

But despite all these exchanges, there is no sign yet of action. One field where there is scope is the long-awaited intra-German agreements on environmental protection and cooperation in science and technology. The question of how West Berlin can be included is the point here.

Neither agreement can provide more than a framework for closer cooperation. The first moves will surely be strictly factual exchange on specific projects — unless, that is, the two sides really do turn over a new leaf, particularly on the environment.

That might just be the case if actions follow words in respect of recent proposals for an intra-German electric power sharing scheme.

The idea of a power grid, including West Berlin, is not new. But in the past nothing came of it because of financial objections and political misgivings.

They were raised in both Bonn and West Berlin, which was reluctant to become dependent on East German power supplies.

But difficulties now beset plans to build new power stations in the divided city, especially in view of its experiences with brown coal smog from East Germany (experiences shared in several areas along the border with East Germany).

As a result East Berlin's interest in ordering from the Federal Republic a power station equipped with the latest in environmental technology, to be paid for by supplies of the power generated, is now seen in a different light.

Even more far-reaching ideas are under consideration. East Berlin is evidently thinking in terms of supplying border regions of the Federal Republic with electric power to pay for imports from the West.

It also has hopes of importing power from the Federal Republic when East Germany faces difficulties, as it did this winter when open-cast brown coal mining was badly hit by the cold spell.

As long as the Federal Republic has a power surplus supplies to the West by way of counter-trade may make little sense, but power supplied in the other direction would suit the West down to the ground.

It would make both economic and political sense if, as part of the arrangement, a direct grid link could be established between West Germany and West Berlin. But would East Berlin agree to that?

Economic and political aspects are inevitably interlinked. But the problems are made even more complex by environmental considerations.

What about the five million-plus tonnes of sulphur dioxide emission a year for which East Germany is responsible — almost twice as much as SO_2 emission in the larger and more heavily industrialised Federal Republic?

Half this atmospheric pollution is static emission by brown coal-fired powered power stations.

East Germany must rely on brown coal, its only domestic source of fossil energy. Importing more oil or gas would cost too much. Nuclear power on a larger scale is controversial in both German states, quite apart from the capital outlay.

So smokestack desulphuration is increasingly urgent, but experts doubt whether East Germany is capable of carrying this out.

They say intra-German environmental policy with a view to cleaner air will only be feasible if the Federal Republic is prepared to lend financial and technological assistance. Will the expense gain sufficient political support in the West?

The same question arises in an entirely different context. Last year there was a drastic increase in the number of Germans from East Germany who were allowed to visit the Federal Republic on "urgent family matters" — the only way in which they can visit the West before reaching pensionable age.

Figures released in Bonn suggest an increase from 66,000 to 200,000 visits, but these figures are far too low. Visits from East Germany are noted more by coincidence than by design, so East German figure, 575,000 permits issued in 1986, rings true.

The East Berlin government has thus fulfilled repeated undertakings in an altogether sensational manner, not the least sensation being the release of the official figure.

The evident intention is to suggest to under-65s in East Germany that they can hope to visit the West more often.

Above all, they have for some time increasingly been allowed to visit the West on grounds of neither an urgent nor a family nature. Is the border being thrown open to all?

This increase in quantity would be transformed into a qualitative improvement in intra-German ties if hints from East Berlin that nearly three million visits a year might be possible were to be borne out in practice.

The number of visits to the Federal Republic by pensioners from East Germany has been roughly 1.5 million a year for a while. Yet even if they were discounted, other visits and visitors would equal them in number.

East Berlin leaders seem intent on further reducing domestic pressure resulting from the strictly limited freedom of travel enjoyed by East Germans under 65.

This is indirectly confirmed by the gradual decline in number to previous levels of exit permits to leave East Germany for good and migrate to the West.

Herr Honecker has evidently decided to take the edge off the backlog of applications to migrate to the West by making it much easier to visit the West temporarily.

This is a dramatic experiment in that past applications for exit permits to leave East Germany for good have often been made by people who had earlier visited the West temporarily.

Be that as it may, nothing is more in keeping with the aims and objectives of Bonn's Deutschlandpolitik than to encourage the largest possible number of intra-German visits: from West to East and, in particular, from East to West.

Yet if increasing numbers of people from East Germany visit the Federal Republic without assistance from relatives or

DIE ZEIT

friends in the West, how are they to pay for their stay?

East Berlin allows them to bring with them up to DM70 in hard currency, depending on the length of their stay, and even that is a fairly heavy sacrifice for East Germany, which is constantly short of foreign exchange.

Visitors from East Germany are entitled to DM30 from the Federal government on their first visit in any calendar year and to DM20 from many of the *Länder*.

Many local authorities also help out in cash or kind. But that still isn't anywhere near enough to make ends meet.

In practice many opportunities of lending further assistance may arise, but it will be another matter if visitors from the East start coming to the West by the million.

Germans from the East cannot all stay with relatives and friends in the Federal Republic. They may, indeed, not want to. So how are they going to be able to pay their way in the long term?

East Germany might well try to persuade the West to make financial provisions in return for the easing of travel restrictions. One wonders what price taxpayers in the Federal Republic will be prepared to pay for the privilege of intra-German ties.

This question may not figure highly on the agenda, but whatever the topic — a power grid, environmental protection or travel arrangements —, the moment of financial truth is sure to come.

Sooner or later fine words will be put to the intra-German test — in East Germany and in the West.

Carl-Christian Kaiser

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 17 April 1987)

A grin, even if not a smile

How nice can the Germans be to each other? The answer, as seen in Berlin right now, is "a little nicer than at the height of the cold war."

That is the significance of the "minor sensation" that contacts between East and West Berlin boroughs are to be re-established after a break of over 25 years.

Berlin borough mayors from East and West are to discuss common problems. East Berlin leader Erich Honecker, in contrast, has declined to attend an official ceremony in West Berlin.

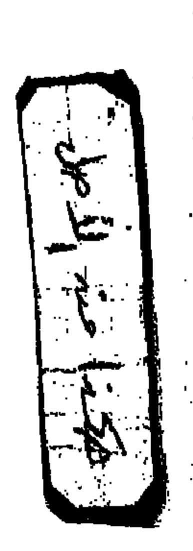
These two news items are two sides of the same coin. The Soviet Union, with reference to status considerations, has advised East Berlin not to overstep the mark in intra-German affairs.

Western Allies will also have breathed a sigh of relief that Helmut Kohl and Erich Honecker will not be seen together in West Berlin on 30 April.

The symbolism of their meeting in the former German capital could have been open to too much misinterpretation.

The Allies are prepared to allow the Germans to be a little nicer too each other — but no more.

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 16 April 1987)



No surprise as Honecker stays at home

West Berlin Mayor Eberhard Diepgen knew for certain that East Berlin's party leader, Erich Honecker, would not be attending 750th anniversary celebrations in the Western part of the city just 17 days beforehand.

Now he will not have to go through any constitutional or diplomatic high-wire artistry to accommodate visitors including Federal President Richard von Weizsäcker and Chancellor Helmut Kohl at the opening celebrations.

The news came as no surprise after weeks of increasingly strong hints from the East that the time was not yet ripe for such a visit despite progress in relations between the two German states.

So the only wagers that will need to be honoured in West Berlin will be those that Herr Honecker would *not cry* off until the last minute, showing how seriously he had considered the matter. He had long seemed sure to decline the invitation.

The next move must be to keep to a minimum any damage that has been done. This term was used by Herr Honecker himself, albeit in connection with his aim, after the Nato decision to station Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe, to limit the damage to relations between the two German states.

The current situation is far less dramatic. Nearly all links between Bonn and East Berlin seem to be so well oiled that Herr Honecker's absence from the 30 April West Berlin gala is seen as a hiccup, not a major upset.

The West Berlin authorities are nonetheless slightly annoyed that Herr Honecker based his refusal on a July 1986 letter by Mayor Diepgen warning *Land* heads of government not to attend official 750th anniversary ceremonies in East Berlin.

West Berlin officials also felt it would have been more tactful of Herr Honecker to wait until Mayor Diepgen had returned from his visit to Yugoslavia before breaking the news.

The East Berlin leader is realised, however, to have been in a difficult position. There can be little doubt that he would have liked to attend the West Berlin ceremony but was *told* by the Kremlin to think up some plausible reason for refusing to do so.

Leaders in both halves of the divided city will now realise that the powers that be are so touchy about the city's Four-Power status that events such as official visits by Herr Honecker or Herr Diepgen to the other half of the city are frowned on.

Herr Honecker would have tacitly acknowledged the status quo in West Berlin if he had attended a ceremony there alongside President Weizsäcker and Chancellor Kohl.

The Western powers are now worried Mayor Diepgen would do much the same in East Berlin if he were to attend a similar ceremony in the Palace of the Republic there on 23 October.

The last word has not yet been spoken on the subject, but Herr Honecker's decision not to visit West Berlin has definitely made it less likely that Mayor Diepgen will be able to accept East Germany's invitation.

Herbert Mittelstaedt

(Allgemeine Zeitung, Mainz, 14 April 1987)

■ PERSPECTIVE

Adenauer, the legend who built hope out of the post-war rubble

Allgemeine Zeitung MAINZ

Konrad Adenauer was a legend in his lifetime. Twenty years after his death, he is still regarded as the most important post-war German politician. If anything, his reputation has increased.

Even the Opposition readily acknowledges what he accomplished.

If ever a man could be said to have given service to his country, an often-awarded acolade, then surely it was Konrad Adenauer.

Adenauer's finest hour came as Germany, both East and West, lay in rubble after the Second World War. Then, it seemed the future held only insignificance, dependence and economic poverty.

It was largely Adenauer's doing that this changed. Germany was now much smaller and divided as well. Despite this, it quickly regained the ability to act independently.

It managed an economic recovery and returned to the fold as an equal member of the family of free nations.

At the pensionable age of 73 Konrad Adenauer assumed responsibility for the newly-established Federal Republic of Germany as its first Chancellor, or head of government.

He had previously been known to few people outside the Rhineland. Appointed Mayor of Cologne in 1917, he played a major role in the city's development for the next 16 years until the Nazis sacked him immediately they came to power in 1933.

In 1945 the Americans reinstated him but he was again dismissed, this time by the British a few months later as incompetent.

His subsequent career is well known. He coordinated the newly-founded Christian Democratic Union, which was initially seen by many as a mere successor to the erstwhile Roman Catholic Centre Party.

In the Parliamentary Council he paved the way for the establishment of the Federal Republic of Germany, which reunited the three Western zones of occupation.

He was elected its first Chancellor in the Bundestag by a majority of one — his own, casting vote as Speaker of the House.

At this stage he could hardly have been called generally popular. His breakthrough did not come until 1955, when his resolute stand in talks with the Soviet Union on the return of the last German prisoners of war won him overnight the reputation of being an Iron Chancellor.

His aims were clear from the moment he took over the reins of government in 1949. He was determined to regain sovereignty for the Federal Republic, to reconcile Germany with neighbouring France and, jointly with France, to pave the way for a united Europe, which in turn would make German reunification possible.

The Federal Republic gained sovereignty within a few years. By the terms of the 1952 Bonn Convention the Allies largely relinquished their rights in Germany, while Bonn gained control of German foreign policy by the terms of the 1955 Paris Treaty.

The fledgling Federal Republic joined the Council of Europe, the European Coal and Steel Community and Nato and became a full and equal member of the Western world.

At the same time the West German "economic miracle" was wrought, due to no small extent to US economic aid and abandonment of the Allied policy of dismantling German industry.

In ties with the East, Adenauer achieved some detente, establishing diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union in 1955, but German reunification was out of the question.

Tension between the superpowers and their respective blocs ruled out a merger between the Federal Republic and East Germany then and now. On this point there has been no change whatever.

What began under Adenauer has held good. Relations with France, greatly enhanced by the personal relationship between Konrad Adenauer and Charles de Gaulle, have developed into genuine partnership.

Regardless of setbacks, sound progress has been made toward a united Europe, while the Federal Republic as a sovereign and acknowledged state has gained considerable political and economic importance.



He sought freedom, peace and unity . . . Adenauer.

(Photo: Sven Simon)

Adenauer's policies had friends and foes during his lifetime and his 14 years as Federal Chancellor. His insistent, at times dictatorial manner gave rise to opposition even in his own party, finally forcing him to resign in 1963. But the direction the Federal Republic was to take had been so clearly outlined by the "Old Man of Rhöndorf" that political decisions to this day bear the unmistakable hallmark of Adenauer's influence.

Konrad Adenauer retained his vitality and not infrequent tendency toward pugnaciousness until very old age and long after he was outof office.

Even as a 90-year-old he still had much to say to younger generations of politicians. He gave valued advice. The international respect in which he was held outlived him, as did the admiration many Germans felt for the "Old Man."

His funeral in Cologne testified to his continued importance. Statesmen from all over the world took part in the funeral procession.

His coffin was preceded by 15 colonels bearing 49 orders and medals on cushions. Dr Adenauer also held many academic distinctions, including no fewer than 20 honorary PhDs.

Many books have been written about him. Many of his typical Rhenish expressions have found their way into dictionaries of quotations. Some of his negative characteristics have been forgotten.

He is now remembered as a father of his country, a fatherland that no longer existed when he assumed office but gradually took shape again under his leadership.

Günther Leicher

(Allgemeine Zeitung, Mainz, 18 April 1987)

What he meant to Germany and to others

Twenty years ago the Federal Republic of Germany was in mourning for a week. Statesmen from all over the world met to pay Konrad Adenauer their last respects as his coffin lay in state in Cologne Cathedral.

On the day of what was a unique funeral ceremony Federal President Heinrich Lübke joined, in a gesture of entreaty, the hands of his American and French counterparts, Lyndon B. Johnson and Charles de Gaulle.

In death the greatness and extraordinary character of Konrad Adenauer were as strikingly apparent as in his lifetime.

Never before, and never since, in the history of the Federal Republic has a politician's death given rise to so many and such powerful sensations of sorrow and forlornness.

Ordinary people felt shocked, sensing a void and a feeling of personal loss.

Yet Adenauer, despite his Rhenish bonhomie, had always taken care to keep his distance — partly as a politician and partly to uphold the authority of office. He was never haughty but always high-spirited and self-assured.

Adenauer never conveyed the impression of being the sort of person who would give you a friendly clap on the shoulder. Millions of Germans saw him as the father of the fatherland.

He dedicated himself wholeheartedly to his country, cared for it like a father and took decisions on its behalf.

Some of his decisions were devious, some were wrong. All were taken with the country's interests, as he saw them, at heart.

Easter Sunday 1987 is the 20th anniversary of Adenauer's death. It is, perhaps, an unusual juxtaposition. But all over the country and throughout the media Adenauer's life and times have been recalled.

This alone is surely a sign of how great and unusual a politician he is still felt to have been.

To say he was extraordinary is not to glorify him. Adenauer was not a man who sought to avoid the parry and thrust of polemics. He frequently brought hostility to a head during election campaigns.

His policy made no headway toward reunification, an aim embodied in Basic Law, the 1949 Bonn constitution. But that was due to a clear and deliberate decision.

Adenauer's political priorities, in order of importance, were freedom, peace and unity — with unity third and last.

What has become of Adenauer's objectives and what remains of his policies? Was he right in saying, when he was forced to resign as Chancellor in 1963, that: "I am not leaving with an easy heart."

What importance is attached today to the following sentence in his last public speech, made in 1967: "The decisive factor is love of one's neighbour and love of one's people"?

Simple though it may sound, that, in essence, was the basis of Adenauer's grand design.

What remains, endorsed by a majority of public opinion, is the Federal Republic's ties with the West. But minority opinion is opposed to these ties.

The social, free-market economy also survives, although it too has its opponents. Friendship with France is undisputed and has been consolidated, but the European Community lacks momentum.

At home, the system of parliamentary government rests on firm foundations, although it is held in less esteem by some — mainly members of the younger generation (for which some politicians are partly to blame).

Adenauer in his day never tired of stressing the overriding importance of freedom, of religion and of belief. He fought communism as an opponent of dictatorship of any kind.

A majority of people in today's Federal Republic of Germany can count themselves lucky to have had no personal experience of dictatorship, which may be why freedom is no longer felt by all to be of overriding importance.

Religion can hardly be said to be making headway, while the term "communist" has in many cases been replaced by the more harmless-sounding "socialist."

Wishful thinking has replaced the political realism that Adenauer practised, and the old German evil, impatience, is back on the increase.

People expect problems to be solved straight away. Patience and allowing developments to develop are irresponsibly dismissed as inactivity on the part of a political adversary.

Politics as practised by Konrad Adenauer also involves — one is bound to add — taking clear decisions once the time is ripe.

Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary and later Prime Minister, said: "Chancellor Adenauer is a firm believer in patience and in the healing properties of time. Little wonder the Russians found it hard to put him off a target he had once set himself."

Patience as a virtue is of great political importance in every way, and not just in relations with the Soviet Union. Germans, sad to say, readily underrate it.

In 1987 Konrad Adenauer can no longer be the sole yardstick of politics, but we would do well to remember him, especially his fundamental decisions on home and foreign policy.

They remain right to this very day and democrats must defend them. They are worth defending, as is the Federal Republic, which largely bears Adenauer's imprint — for all its shortcomings.

Rudolf Bauer

(Rheinische Post, Düsseldorf, 18 April 1987)

■ THE WORKFORCE

Employers, engineerings workers, pull back from brink to reach agreement

The threat of an industrial dispute by engineers and metal workers has been averted. A compromise pay agreement has been reached by the metalworkers' union, IG Metall, and the employers. The agreement provides for a pay rise of 3.7 per cent and a two-stage reduction of the working week from 38 to 37 hours.

Union and management representatives in the metal industry settled their differences peacefully in the end, although the night before all the indications were that there would be a strike.

Both Werner Stumpfe, the president of the Gesamtmetall employers' federation, and Franz Steinkühler, the head of IG Metall, the metalworkers' union, were emphasising the points of disunity. But reason prevailed.

The agreement is a success for both sides and for the free collective bargaining system.

Employers and unions have hammered out a solution on their own, without having to call in an arbitrator or stage a major industrial dispute.

The metal industry has followed the example set by the public service sector, where agreement on pay was quickly reached in March — without an arbitrator.

In the latter case, however, negotiations were a lot easier, since they centred on pay rises only and did not include the awkward question of a shorter working week.

Nevertheless, the agreement in the public service sector was an obvious signal.

The agreement is also a big personal success for the two new negotiators. This was the first major test for both Stumpfe and Steinkühler.

Both were called upon to demonstrate their ability to find a way out of tricky situations.

Both sides wanted to avoid a spreading industrial conflict and a trial of strength. This made it easier to come to a compromise.

Employers and unions repeatedly stressed that they were opposed to an industrial dispute, which almost meant that negotiations in Bad Homburg were bound to succeed.

A dispute would have come at the worst possible time for both sides.

IG Metall was pushed for time, since an arbitration procedure would have dragged on well into May.

If this had failed there would not have been much time left for the union to rally its members for an all-out strike.

The summer holidays start mid-June in Hesse and at the beginning of July in the important collective bargaining region of Baden-Württemberg.

Union leaders were also worried about the possible effects the amended version of the controversial paragraph 116 of the Labour Promotion Law might have during a major strike.

Such a strike might not only weigh heavily on the union's strike funds, but also sap the strength of the entire strike movement.

The wounds inflicted during the long industrial dispute in 1984 have not yet healed.

Employers were also keen on preventing a conflict.

The metal industry is particularly hard hit by the economy's deteriorating prospects.

There has been a noticeable drop in export orders and a slackening off of domestic investments.

In such a situation the loss of production caused by a lengthy industrial dispute is clearly undesirable.

The agreement reached is a compromise. As Stumpfe put it: "Both sides have lost a few of their feathers".

IG Metall set out to push through a phase plan, the final stage of which was to be the 35-hour week. The agreement, however, only envisages a cut in weekly working time to 37 hours by 1989.

Nonetheless, the union has achieved a great deal in view of the fact that it only bid farewell to the 40-hour working week three years ago.

Employers have been able to prevent the introduction of a shorter working week this year and have negotiated a pay increase (3.7 per cent as of 1 August, 1987) which is only slightly higher than the increase agreed upon in the public service sector (3.4 per cent).

The three-year term of this agreement is something new in the metal industry and provides a sound basis for calculations in this industry.

The deal has yet to be confirmed in regional pay negotiations.

Top-level agreement, however, is a signal which regional negotiators cannot ignore.

It is also a guideline for the current pay negotiations in the printing and banking industries, even if the printing industry's employers emphasise that the metal industry agreement has no pilot function.

A speedy compromise in these industries would also be a major success for the system of free collective bargaining.

An important round of collective bargaining would then have been concluded without arbitration and without an industrial dispute.

Wolfgang Gillmann

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 23 April 1987)

Chemicals union gets deal on part-time work

The chemicals industry has reached an agreement on *part-time employment* with the union, IG Chemie. It is believed to be the first such agreement in this country and it comes after the engineering and metalworkers' union, IG Metall, had drawn up a resolution recommending strict conditions before any such agreement was made. IG Metall is the biggest trade union in the country and its decisions and agreements are usually regarded as standard for other, smaller unions. The IG Chemie agreement differs from several points made by the engineers's union, which said among other things in its resolution that it would do all it could to limit part-time employment.

The IG Metall resolution said it wanted to limit part-time employment and, above all, prevent a reduction in the total number of employed persons through the conversion of full-time into part-time jobs.

"In order to put a stop to unregulated and insecure working conditions for part-time employees we demand: first, the setting up of part-time jobs and the regulation of working conditions for part-time employees within the framework of existing collective agreement provisions and only with the approval of the works council; and

"Second, the setting up of part-time jobs only in the form of employment which is subject to social insurance contributions and with a fixed number of daily working hours and a fixed number of weekly working days."

Union and management in the chemicals industry have now agreed on deal on part-time employment, probably the first such deal in the Federal Republic.

Both sides have worked out a solution suited to their respective needs.

The agreement guarantees apprentices regular employment, at least on a step-by-step basis, when they finish their apprenticeship.

It also gives workers who want to work part time, and there are many of them, the chance to do so.

The exchange between workers interested in part-time or full-time employment is contractually regulated and organised.

Part-time employees still expressly benefit from the provisions of the industry-wide "framework agreement" and the codermination rights of works councils as specified in the Works Constitution Act.

As a kind of compensation for the agreement, which primarily benefits employees, the employers have been assured greater flexibility of working hours.

The number of hours to be worked by part-time employees can be spread in accordance with capacity use demand over a period of six months, even though there is a minimum of four working hours a day.

Pay policy is no longer viewed as a dialectical process of thesis and antithesis followed by a forced synthesis after tough conflict.

Both sides regard themselves as members of the same rope party, climbing up the mountains of collective bargaining together.

This explains why they have managed to climb much higher than the IG Metall and the employers' federation in the metal industry.

Hans Mundorf

(Handelsblatt, Dusseldorf, 14 April 1987)

■ MONEY

Misunderstood roles of the IMF and World Bank

The IMF and the World Bank have become venerable institutions, but their roles are still misunderstood.

High-flying expectations are placed in them, as though they were in a position to eliminate the world's economic ills and to do more for development aid.

Yet neither is a development aid institution in the sense that it grants loans at concessional rates. Both are often urged to do so. They are among the world's most maligned helpers.

The World Bank raises in international capital markets the funds it redistributes in loans. As its member-countries stand guarantor for it, the bank can raise funds on favourable terms.

The World Bank only grants soft loans via a subsidiary, the International Development Association. IDA funds



are replenished every three years by contributions made by about 30 countries.

The IMF is responsible for the smooth running of the international monetary system and grants member-countries short- to medium-term loans, roughly at market rates, to enable them to cope with balance-of-payments difficulties.

The individual country's credit line is, roughly speaking, dependent on its quota as a paying member of the Fund.

The IMF's only contribution toward development aid as such is that it granted soft loans on the proceeds of its sales of gold holdings.

Repayments of these soft loans are now being used, via the structural adaptation facility, to grant loans to countries with very low per capita incomes, funds being administered by the World Bank.

Both themselves adapt to changes in the world. At the spring meeting of the IMF interim committee and the IMF and World Bank development committee this was evident in a clearer distinction being drawn between very poor countries, about 40 in number, and heavily indebted countries — the 15 "Baker countries."

The first group are to qualify mainly for IDA and structural adaptation fund loans. Industrialised countries that grant them bilateral loans are also supposed to offer concessional terms.

These "poor" countries do not pose overwhelming problems for the international financial system. Commercial banks have lent them little or nothing, so they have little to do with the "debt crisis."

The heavily indebted countries, many of which are well over the poverty threshold (per capita income of $420 per annum), some falling not far short of $2,000 per annum, will hit the headlines for some time if they continue to fail to regain creditworthiness.

The Baker Initiative, a combination of domestic adaptation measures, World Bank loans in support of economic policies geared more to the free market, IMF bridging loans with financial and monetary policy strings and extra commercial bank loan facilities, is aimed at these countries.

In a nutshell the combination could be summarised as creditworthiness via growth opportunities.

The World Bank mainly granted project loans until the debt crisis gained momentum. Project loans were disbursed over longer periods.

In recent years the bank has taken to granting highly indebted countries large-scale economic adaptation loans that were disbursed more promptly.

Barber Conable, World Bank president since mid-1986, is in the process of redirecting loan policy by means of reorganisation within the Bank.

The new organisational arrangements have yet to be finalised but fears have already been voiced that the Bank may forfeit the services of a number of experts in project financing and financing in specific sectors, such as agriculture.

Mr Conable, a long-serving and respected member of the US House of Representatives, sees his role as a political one.

A settlement of the debt crisis, taking it out of the headlines, is certainly in the US interest, especially as Latin American countries are mainly concerned.

Mr Conable would like to see the Baker Initiative succeed, and he has demonstrated on Capitol Hill that he has the staying power to see through to its conclusion any task he may have in hand.

The IMF on its part is evidently keen to reinterpret the conditions subject to which member-countries are granted loans. It has been criticised for the tough terms imposed immediately after the debt crisis arose.

The new managing director, Michel Camdessus, is working on formulas that link the terms with the prerequisites for growth.

The IMF seems to be more prepared than in the past to consider a country's specific situation. This is because it doesn't want to be accused of having been to blame for social tension, accusations of this kind having been made.

The IMF and the World Bank are heading in a difficult direction, on a path fraught with risks. Those who feel uneasy about it risk being accused of heartlessness toward people in the developing countries.

Yet they may well wonder whether the risk of the IMF and the World Bank being increasingly subjected to political influence might not prove the more serious the more flexible an attitude they take.

Wilhelm Seuß

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 15 April 1987)

Rise in public debt despite spending cuts

Public sector debt has almost doubled so far in the 1980s — from 414 billion marks in 1979 to 802 billion at the end of last year — says a Bundesbank report.

Economists at the bank say the debt is likely to continue rising in the foreseeable future.

The bank's figures mean that three factors have not been enough to stabilise the debt: the CDU's return to power in Bonn in 1982; the big profits remitted by the Bundesbank; and successive cuts in welfare spending.

Federal, *Land* and local authority debts now amount to over 40 per cent of GNP, as against a little over 30 per cent seven years ago.

There are no signs of economies in Federal government spending. The Federal government boosted its liabilities to nearly DM415bn in the period under review, accounting for over half the national debt.

Chancellor Kohl's government promised before assuming power in October 1982 to reduce the Federal government's debt. It has failed to do so.

Between 1979 and 1982, when the Social Democrats were in power in Bonn, the Federal government's debts increased by over DM100bn to DM309bn.

The Christian Democrats' track record has not been much better. Over the next four years they increased the debt by a further DM100bn-plus.

The *Länder* have fared even worse. Between 1979 and 1986 their debts increased by 130 per cent to DM264bn, whereas local authority debts grew by a little over one quarter to DM116bn.

The heavy increase in borrowing by the *Länder* has doubtless been due to structural problems and to the enormous increase in unemployment that has accompanied them.

Bundesbank economists refer to this phenomenon as "unfavourable regional economic development."

There has been a clear change in one respect: the source of loans. In the 1970s the government deficit was largely financed by domestic banks. Loans are now raised mainly abroad.

Last year foreign loans met over 20 per cent of the public sector borrowing requirement, as against a mere five per cent seven years ago.

Over the same period borrowing from German banks declined from over 70 to about 60 per cent of the total, with private investors lending the remaining 20 per cent or so.

Last year alone the foreign debts owed by the Federal and *Land* governments and local authorities increased by DM35.5bn, accounting for 86 per cent of the public sector borrowing requirement (of which the Federal government accounted for the lion's share).

One main reason for this interest shown by foreign investors was, as the Bundesbank sees it, the abolition of withholding tax in 1984. Investors were also keen to invest in DM bonds because they expected the deutschemark to gain in value.

The Bundesbank sees this reliance on foreign capital as a serious danger to the German economy. It could certainly prove one if the situation were to be reversed.

Just as fast as expectations of DM revaluation has attracted foreign capital, capital could be withdrawn if even lower DM interest rates were felt to make deutschemark investment less attractive.

The public sector is advised to raise loans with a wider range of durations and terms to make them more attractive for domestic investors and to reduce the risk posed by too high a level of foreign investment.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 16 April 1987)

■ ELECTRONICS

Europeans take the battle to the Japanese

European manufacturers of television sets, video equipment and accessories had a better year in 1986 than they expected.

Sales in Germany were up 7.1 per cent at 15 billion marks.

The days are past when the industry wailed about the Japanese export steam roller. Producers have themselves got stronger and intensified their development efforts.

European producers have made adjustments for improved sales of colour television sets and video-recorders. Overcapacities have been cut back.

This strategy has worked. After a run of bad years, many producers have come back into the black. But the industry still needs structural changes.

It is no accident that German manufacturers are looking at the French Thompson Group and its German subsidiaries. There is no doubt that the concentration process in the industry will continue.

There is already a network of cooperation in the industry. But further bunching together of companies, which the trade is not very keen on of course, is indispensible. In view of the competition from the Far East, that is always on the verge of gaining the upperhand, every move possible to rationalise production must be made to bring down production costs.

It is getting more and more important to develop foreign markets so as to have a firm sales basis.

It should give encouragement to realise that the Japanese are no different from anyone else. Last year the Japanese entertainments electronics industry's many years of continuous success came to an end. The weakness of the American dollar and a massive drop in exports hit the Japanese industry badly.

In addition the competition put up by South Korean manufacturers such as Goldstar and Samsung increased enormously. The South Korean electronics industry has already captured significant market shares in sectors of the television and audio equipment market in the Federal Republic.

The trend in the industry is underlined by Far East companies that are trying more and more to transfer production to sales areas. Any number of projects in Europe emphasise this.

Then a group of other producers from the photographic or pure electronics industry are breaking into entertainment electronics.

Innovation has become all-important as has been shown by the boom in sales of compact discs (CDs), video cameras and camcorders (camera and recorder combined).

Industry experts agree that there will be many attractive new products at the biennial Berlin international radio and television exhibition in August and September.

It is expected that the industry's shop window will boost sales. In the first half of this year business developed only moderately.

Much attention will be given to developments in improved television pictures, CD video systems and digital audio tape-recorders (DATs).

Sales leaders continue to be colour television sets and video-recorders.

Digitalisation is the magic word that is spreading into production programmes. But digital products do not always live up to their reputation.

The choice of television programmes continues to be extended, which is good news for the future of the entertainments electronics industry, even if competition gets tougher all the time — good for consumers — prices are bound to fall.

Werner Neitzel

(Die Welt, Bonn, 21 April 1987)

Soccer world cup boosts colour TV-set sales

Colour television sets remain the mainstay of the German leisure electronics industry last year: sales last year were 4.1 billion marks compared with 3.75 billion the year before. This helped push the industry's retail sales up 7.1 per cent to 15 billion marks.

The world soccer championship in Mexico pushed colour television set sales, particularly portables, in the first half last year.

More than 500,000 sets were suitable for videotext and 20,000 for viewdata.

Colour television saturation increased in 1986 from the previous 86 per cent to 88 per cent. The trend is for sets with flat rectangular cathode-ray tubes with an increased accent on digitalisation.

Hi-fi equipment came in at second place with sales of DM3.17bn (1985 DM2.98bn), according to industry association spokesman Wiesinger.

Sales from producers to the trade of the hi-fi bestseller, compact disc players, increased by 150 per cent to 650,000 units, easily exceeding the half million sets the industry expected to sell.

Wiesinger said that the trend was towards expensive hi-fi equipment. Sales of tuners during 1986 were 620,000 units, amplifiers 670,000, receivers 230,000, compact units 700,000, cassette recorders 1.05 million and record-players without amplifiers 770,000.

Sales of video-recorders and camcorders were worth DM3.1bn last year (in 1985 DM2.7bn). During the year 1.7 million units were sold as opposed to 1.53 million in the previous year. This was 200,000 more units than industry forecasts expected to sell.

Sales of cameras and portable recorders dropped from 50,000 to 35,000 units, but camcorder sales increased from 80,000 in 1985 to 130,000 units last year

According to the industry association 60,000 of these were 8 mm and 7[illegible] were VHS units.

Retail trade sales of car radios increased from DM1.75bn to DM1.9bn. There was an increase of units sold for private cars from 4.35 million to 4.8 million.

The entertainments and communications electronics association says that more than 90 per cent of private cars in the Federal Republic now have radios.

Last year the industry sold pocket and portable radios worth DM1.43bn (DM1.35bn) and DM1.27bn (DM1.1bn) of blank audio and video tapes.

The demand for digitalisation continues to grow, and this year the first TV satellite (TV-SAT) for direct television transmission will be in space.

The industry's optimism is based on these developments and it is looking forward to the new generation of television sets, digital audio tape-recorders (DATs) and CD-videos.

During 1986 there was considerable adjustments made to market demands. For this reason stocks in individual production ranges are limited to specific time spans.

Overcapacities, that brought about massive price reductions in the past few years, have been almost completely eliminated.

There are possibilities that prices for certain units will be reduced because of the ever rapid pace at which new equipment comes on the market.

(Handelsblatt, Düsseldorf, 11 April 1987)

A chip on the new block

The traditional divisions between various branches of industry are no longer so clearly drawn. This is mainly because of high technology.

The chip has made it easier to muscle in on your neighbour's patch.

IBM and Nixdorf, for instance, both became giants through computers, but now they are forcing their way into the communications industry. The key word is telecommunications and the bait is digitalisation.

Then the Swedish telephone manufacturer Ericsson is thinking of going into computer production.

Telecommunications and information technology are drawing closer and closer together. The jargon word is telematics.

Other manufacturing sectors are coming to terms with computers as well. Typewriter manufacturers are risking getting mixed up in office computer equipment — with varying results, as is seen by Olivetti on the one hand, and Triumph-Adler and Olympia on the other.

Car accessory producers are getting entangled in computers, Bosch in Telenorma, and car manufacturers are getting into the computer act, such as Volkswagen with Triumph-Adler (but now sold to Olivetti), General Motors with EDS and BMW in Loewe-Opta.

Increased automation, possible because of micro-electronics, is a sound development for offices as well as for the factory.

The more machine tools become automatised, to make production more flexible, or are even replaced by fully-automated production systems of the future, the more the traditional machine tool manufacturers, mainly medium-sized operations, have to face up to competition from the computer sector's big names such as Siemens and IBM.

No one is certain of the consequences. The additional competition is good news for customers, but it can be a danger because it puts the small and medium-sized manufacturers under pressure.

The record-breaking discoveries in micro-electronics did not originate from plans deployed by the large companies. They were the product of work done by do-it-yourself fanatics and novices.

(Westdeutsche Allgemeine, Essen, 16 April 1987)

■ THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

Thinking about a policy of fewer farms and more forest land

Forestry is often wildly underrated as an economic factor in Europe. European Community officials estimate the number of jobs in forestry and allied trades, such as lumber transportation, at roughly one million.

A further two million work in the wood trade, making a total of roughly six per cent of industrial workers, or nearly as many as work in motoring or chemicals.

The renewable commodity, timber, that forms the basis of this European industry grows in an area of 53.4 million hectares — roughly the size of France.

Over 38.6 million hectares, or nearly 18 per cent of the total surface area of the European Community, are uninterrupted forest.

France, the Federal Republic of Germany and Spain are the most densely-wooded European Community countries. Between them they account for 70 per cent of timber felled.

In international terms the European Community may be an agricultural giant but it is a forestry dwarf. The Twelve account for little over one per cent of the world's forest acreage.

Forest acreage may make up roughly one third of European Community farmland, forest products account for only four per cent of agricultural output and forestry earnings account for only six per cent of agricultural profits.

Europe, or so the Brussels Commission feels, makes inadequate use of its forests and the temperate European climate.

The situation is expected to deteriorate in the years ahead. The "green lungs" of industrialised Europe are consumptive and seem likely to be condemned to death.

Seven million hectares of European woodland are threatened by acid rain, with German forests hardest-hit by a mysterious disease the origins of which are not yet entirely clear.

It is, however, clear that environmental pollution is a crucial factor, especially sulphur dioxide and nitric oxide pollution.

Fifty per cent of German woodland is already affected. The most seriously affected areas in the Federal Republic are the Black Forest (bordering France) and the Bavarian Forest (bordering Czechoslovakia).

Acid rain has long affected woodland in Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Poland. It has now spread to neighbouring western countries. Forty per cent of woodland in the Vosges is diseased.

If diseased trees need felling the supply of timber in the years ahead may double or even treble in the short term.

Forest-owners fear that would upset the market equilibrium. But the short-term surplus would be followed by a far more devastating shortage.

Acid rain and tree deaths seem to threaten what is, in any case, a strictly limited forest acreage in southern Europe too.

Europe already uses twice as much wood as European Community woodland yields. Community output is 100 million cubic metres, as against well over 200 million cubic metres a year used by the European wood and paper industry.

The European Community imports timber and forest products worth over DM36bn a year from the East Bloc countries, Scandinavia and Canada. Forest products thus rank second only to petroleum as a deficit item in European Community foreign trade statistics.

Trees planted in large-scale reafforestation schemes after the war will soon be ready for felling in Britain, France and Belgium.

Recycled waste paper accounts for 43 per cent of the raw material used by European papermakers, as against 30 per cent in 1957. Wood makes up only 21 per cent of the total.

Yet the European Community's timber deficit will continue to increase until the turn of the century. It is doubtful whether the shortfall can be met by imports at reasonable prices.

In all probability supplies from timber-exporting countries will stagnate. Tropical wood, for instance, will soon be scarce. Third World countries are ruthlessly exploiting reserves at an alarming rate.

The European Commission has for some time been considering how best to improve economic and ecological use of Community forests.

Several vain attempts to embark on a common forestry policy ran aground in the Council of Ministers because some member-countries refused to commit funds.

So Brussels dispensed with a common policy approach and formally withdrew all proposals of this kind. European forestry policy will continue to respond flexibly under national and regional responsibility.

That isn't to say that the Community has dispensed with all common forestry measures. Far from it. The Commission has drawn up a forestry action programme and a forestry memorandum designed to combine previous Community measures and herald a new direction in European forestry policy.

Brussels is concentrating on three targets: expansion of forest acreage, better use of acreage and precautions against acid rain and forest fire destruction.

Not until last December, just in time for European Environment Year, did the Council of Ministers make the first move and approve the Commission's forest protection programme — the first of several forestry proposals submitted to it.

The Twelve are now committed to spending roughly DM60m over the next five years. That is little more than a drop in the ocean given the problems tree deaths pose.

DM20m is to be spent on observation and scientific analysis of the effects of atmospheric pollution, DM40m on forest fire precautions.

Forest paths are to be cut, clearings made to prevent fire spreading and ponds built to supply fire engines in the most seriously-threatened forest areas of Southern Europe.

Observation and early warning systems are to be set up to enable fire brigades to take swift action to fight forest fires.

As the areas affected are often overtaxed by the extent of summer conflagrations, increasing use is to be made of international assistance.

These Community moves all seem to be in their early days. The Commission's proposals are in many cases still too vague and sound a helpless note. But a start has been made.

A majority of member-countries now seems no longer to rule out common forestry moves and programmes.

The European Community has in effect long pursued individual aspects of a common forestry policy as part of structural policy, Mediterranean programmes, research policy and the common agricultural policy.

Between 1980 and 1984 the Community spent nearly DM1bn on forestry in this way. Infrastructure measures such as road-

Hannoversche Allgemeine

building programme serve to improve access to and utilisation of the forests.

Forest acreage is often so inaccessible, especially in mountain areas, that timber isn't worth felling.

European Community officials in Brussels say an estimated 30 per cent of timber growing in European forests can't be put to commercial use. So modest extra investment ought to be enough to boost timber output substantially.

The Commission is keen on private forest-owners, mainly farmers, setting up forestry associations.

Forestry firms specially subsidised as part of Community support programmes for small and medium-sized companies could also help to market timber, as intermediaries between forest-owners and industry, ensuring continual supplies.

Developments in this direction would be particularly important in view of the growing significance of forestry as an adjunct to farming in Community structural policy.

As the Community faces drowning in milk lakes and being crushed to death by butter and cereal mountains, and as surplus agricultural production drives it deeper into debt, the Twelve's timber shortfall is steadily increasing.

The European Commission feels two birds could be killed with one stone if cultivation of farmland were discontinued and trees planted on it instead.

Farm acreage and surpluses would be reduced, while in the long term the Community's forest products deficit would be reduced and lost rural jobs recreated.

Eurocrats in Brussels are well aware that farmers cannot earn a living overnight from their forest acreage. Trees take time to grow and the shortest time-span used in calculations is the decade.

Yet farmers' earnings must be assured here and now, so forestry can only be a viable alternative to crop-growing if government subsidies ease the transition.

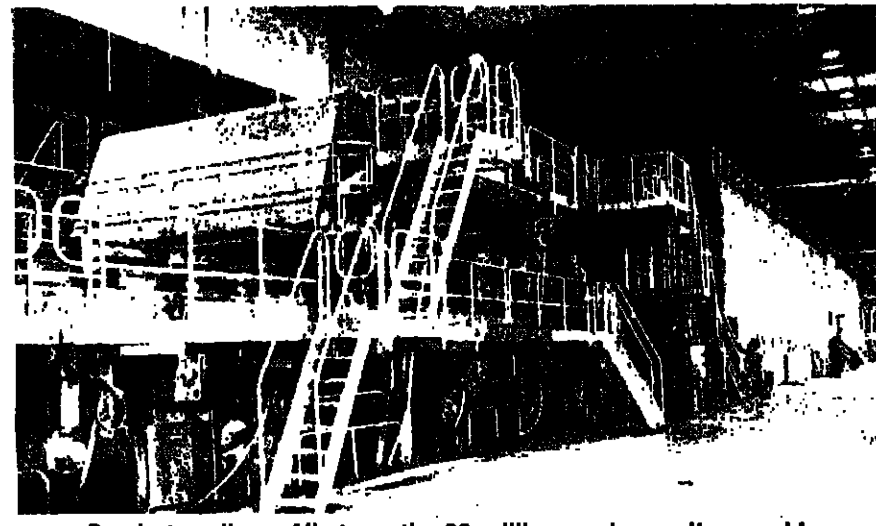
In a number of Community countries grants and tax incentives already encourage afforestation. The Community, Brussels argues, might flank these national measures with joint moves financed by Community funds.

On balance, Commission officials say, the money spent on unsaleable farm surpluses might in this way be saved. New forest acreage would definitely benefit the eco-systems of industrialised European countries and be a blessing to ordinary people in search of rest and recreation.

Thomas Gack

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 18 April 1987)

Waste paper in, new paper out — 200 tons of it a day



Ready to roll . . . Albatros, the 66 million mark recycling machine.

(Photo: Axel Springer Verlag)

Albatros — the big bird's German spelling — is the name that has been given to the largest paper-making machine in Europe that processes nothing but waste paper.

This jumbo recycler has been installed at a paper works in Glückstadt on the North Sea coast of Schleswig-Holstein and unveiled at a ceremony attended by 250 dignitaries, including trade guests and politicians.

It took 16 months to assemble in a newly-built hall at a total cost of DM66m. The Albatros can produce 850 metres of recycled paper a minute in a roll 4.60 metres wide. It is manned by five of the firm's 620 staff.

The company, Peter Temming AG, feels the machine is a market-oriented investment for the 1990s. Director Klaus Weishaupt stressed its minimum water and power consumption and effluent output.

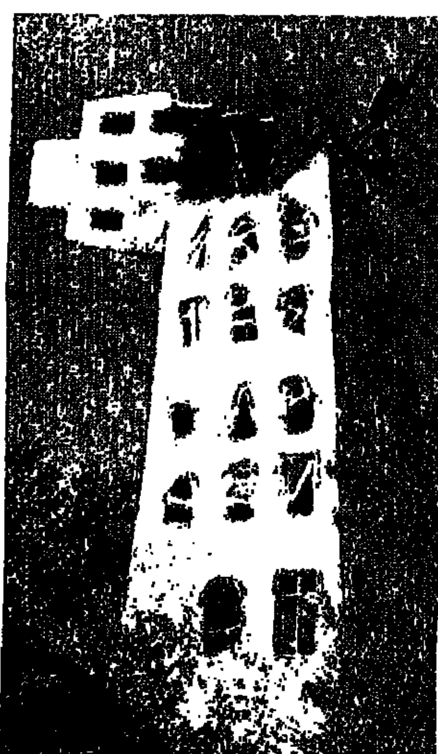
Dr Gerd Keussen, state secretary at the Schleswig-Holstein Economic Affairs Ministry, said: "Major raw materials are recycled and natural commodities used sparingly."

Last year the firm produced 105,000 tonnes of paper and lint (used as a basic material for man-made fibre). Output was up 12 per cent, while overall turnover was down 10 per cent.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 8 April 1987)

■ EXHIBITIONS

Niki de St Phalle: playing with myths but seeing the reality of it all



The Broken Tower. **Niki de St Phalle. Joint work with Jean Tinguely, who created the machine.** (Photo: Catalogue)

The works of Niki de St Phalle are being exhibited in Munich: she was born in Paris in 1930 and grew up in New York.

The exhibition catalogue photographs reveal her as a fragile, lovely young women.

The reality was that she had to overcome much: it is not only the family name (in her biographies, there are the words "No pseudonym") that her father bequeathed her.

She came from a good family and had a Catholic upbringing. She married early but it broke up. There were men as variants of the father and always the father as the male absolutely.

She listed what she hated in childish letters brilliantly coloured: "Papa, all men, fat men, men, my brother, society, the church, Papa, myself, men."

Psychiatry and electric shock therapy did not help. Her first pictures and assemblages of the 1950s were the ironic first attempts of a self-taught artist to take her fortune in her own hands (which linked her to the customs official-cum-Sunday painter Henri Rousseau).

She wanted to illustrate her dreams and nightmares and encode them with *Art brut.*

Then in 1961 came the liberating event that would have made her an honorary member of the Sigmund Freud Society: the row about the carbine.

Below the surface of the stucco relief which made up one of her assemblages there were concealed pouches of colour.

These were burst by a couple of shots from the carbine and the dazzling colours were splashed over the grey plaster of Paris. Everything that she hated was brought to nothing. She called this "war without victims."

Ten years later, in 1971, "Poor Daddy" was indeed dead. Niki de St Phalle produced a massive polyester group consisting of a blue coffin (in which her father lay clothed in white), a gold cross with a red bird and a fat woman with a handbag on her arm who stood by the coffin, threateningly and in mourning at one and the same time.

The father died along with the aggressive Niki of the pictures created by shots and her assemblages laden with civilisation's rubbish.

This aggressive Niki died before him in fact and went on to create a whole arsenal of compensatory goddesses of revenge with the fat "Nana" and her strapping sisters in bright clothes or tight bathing costumes.

One could come to only one conclusion by the very appearance of these enormous women (fat backsides with small heads); that the blood had been sucked out of the men, that the "Nanas" had swallowed them.

The "Nanas" that first appeared in 1966 made Niki de St Phalle world-famous. There were crowds of them and their slogan, displayed in a balloon as in a comic strip, declared: "The Nanas for power."

A giant example of one of these sprawls on the floor of the *Modena Museet* in Stockholm.

The exhibition in the Kunsthalle of the Munich Hypo-Bank shows clearly how these Nanas, sure of victory and among the early emancipated, stand for her highly-coloured version of peace, that has now become the hallmark of all Niki de St Phalle's sculpture.

Without cataloguing her work in any way as feminist, Niki de St Phalle was way ahead of her times as regards female liberation.

The exhibition includes early, malicious works such as "Herz mit Ungeheuer," "King Kong" and "Rosa Geburt."

There are also the early monster-like Nanas made of cloth and patchwork, almost pushed to the sidelines by the crowd of lacquered, highly-coloured polyester figures and ensembles, the new "Skinnies," that look like variants of beautiful Mexican candle stands.

DIE ZEIT

A sculpture group such as "Die Badenden," a man and a woman on the beach, with blue water and a red ball, would be shown at its best on the promenade at holiday resort Timmendorf on the Baltic.

The true quality of these huge figures has now grown into the landscape over the years, such as the works she has produced, either alone or with Jean Tinguely, architecturally enormous sculptures like "Hon," the children's playgrounds in Knokke and Jerusalem, and a huge "Kopf-Haus" in the woods close to her Paris atelier.

But above all this quality is visible in the Tarot Garden in Tuscany on which she has been working since 1979, which she regards as her life's work.

It is only 90 minutes car drive from Bomarzo to the huge park of monsters and and the wonderful garden of mythology. Niki has there begun to recreate the 22 cards of the tarot pack.

Each one has a secret message for her, created in monumental, sometimes in habitable sculptures.

About twenty helpers are working with her on this project that is growing out of the earth, mosaics of mythical beasts and monsters, towers that are leaning over and distended organisms, snaking between bushes and trees in the landscape.

Is this Niki's paradise — or a materialisation of T.S. Eliot's "Waste Land," that some years ago stimulated her to this work?

Her picture-book "Aids" shows that Niki de St Phalle is all woman, who stands firmly in life with her beautiful legs. She wrote to her son Philip: "You don't get anything by holding your hands together." She indicates and illustrates in the book the dangers, the precautions that can be taken and possible help for an AIDS victim. "Use a rubber," she wrote and drew wonderful, decorated contraceptives. This is all part of the spiritual annihilation of the father and preventive care for the son and all other young men. The circle closes for Niki de St Phalle, who is playing with myths but who can see reality.

Petra Kipphoff

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 10 April 1987)

The Fire Bird **is part of a display at the Pompidou Centre in Paris. Joint work with Jean Tinguely.** (Photo: Catalogue)

A provocative business, this child's play

An exhibition in Hanover dealing with the fine arts since 1945 has been given the unusual title of "My child can do that as well."

Vigilance is called for when a museum director uses such a catchy slogan. There is, of course, method behind the madness of this enjoyable but awkwardly adolescent show in which the organisers aim to irritate people so much that they are provoked into going off and doing something of their own.

It is hoped that curiosity will be aroused and that people will not groan at mention of modern art or think themselves stupid that they do not understand it.

There is the risk, of course, that generally we accept as true only that which we want to be true, so confirming our objections.



A visitor ponders . . . before a work of A. R. Penck in Hanover. (Photo: Karin Blehn)

Udo Liebelt and his colleagues from the Museum Centre did not set out to present art history or stylistic points of view, but to use our *prejudices* and judgments as a guide through the exhibition. These determined the choice of works for the show.

There is one section of the exhibition that has the pithy heading "Paint" devoted to abstract art works reduced to a minimum in a few colours, accompanied with the caption: "The canvas is already there — when is the picture going to come?"

The exhibition method is to show that in this section the blue picture surface of one work (by Yves Klein) has nothing to do with the blue panels of another (by Timm Ulrichs). By making comparisons, seemingly, the differences are effectively displayed

Those who think that white is white, no matter how or where it is, are in error, or a monochrome canvas is the sign of a sign of external unimaginativeness.

The only point that is raised is when and in what circumstances a work originates. Whether the creation is the first or the 150th attempt that astonishes us with white-tinted canvases and in the end wearys us. Lucio Fontana is in-

Continued on page 11

■ PHOTOGRAPHY

Helmut Newton, the cocky Berliner, pops back up from down under

Photographer Helmut Newton, now a naturalised Australian, has not lost the cheek of a Berliner, the city where he was born.

He enjoyed to the full the crush of the press at the opening of an exhibition of his work at Bonn's *Landesmuseum.*

He chatted about his Berlin accent, made a loutish comment here and there and warded off with both arms flaying anything that appeared to him to be overweeningly intellectual.

Newton, 67, is not the macho athlete one would have expected. Rather his stature is delicate, his appearance is youthful.

He has little in common with his models that he portrays lasciviously in his gallery.

He has little praise for young German photographers. He has little sympathy for them.

He said that they concentrated their interests too much on back-yards and filth. They had, he believed, a very limited view and were at daggers drawn with sensuality.

Naturally Newton values the lighter side of our world. He felt himself to be attracted to "elite people," because their down-to-earthness was more fascinating.

Big names

He could imbue his models with a sense of glamour, fame, sex and a strong streak of self-confidence, which was what was demanded by magazines and also what people asked for.

Among his clients he can include Grace Jones, Mick Jagger, Paloma Picasso, Jeanne Moreau, Gianni Bulgari, Margaux Hemingway, David Hockney and Salvador Dali.

Newton is mainly showing portraits in Bonn. The exhibition shows just what an astonishingly grasp he has of the genre.

He said: "I try to grasp as far as is possible as much as possible from a person." Because of this he does not fawn, like so many of his colleagues, but keeps a distance from his clients, showing them fully or only partly, with trivial props in the background. He prefers to photograph women naked.

Newton is a shy man who says he can never chat up a girl on the street. Nevertheless he is able to convince people that they should conceal nothing when in front of his camera. Then they flirt about their ugliness and feel buttered up by the "speechless" master cameraman who photographs them, yes them.

He does not dazzle his models with a great show of any sort. Newton does not try to entice with a dumb show.

He commented: "I'm not a romantic, illusionist or idealist, I'm a realist."

Helmut Newton's photographic realism has naturalist as well as surrealistic features. Every person is on the "wanted list" and stands enigamtically before his camera.

He seizes upon every detail from a breast nipple to the parting in the hair.

Newton outwits the poseur, the person full of himself or herself by persistence, by feigning disinterest, by taking no notice of them, by brutal digression.

The result: pictures of aggressive, inconsiderate, loveless, vain, ice-cold characters that one would not like to have in one's circle of friends.

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

It goes without saying that people who commission portraits from him are not always pleased with the final result. Newton protects himself from complaint and legal trouble by saying disarmingly: "I know how I would feel if I were photogtaphed. I seldom agree with the way colleagues see me. So I prefer to be photographed by my wife June, who is also a photographer."

Newton takes the view that all photographers are distrusted, including himself. Nevertheless he has "fallen in love with effects," that ignite like fireworks at the cost of the person concerned.

This awakens desires, stills voyeuristic feelings, guarantees erections if Newton's models snuggle up a lap-dog to their vaginal parts, when the camera lens straddles her lap, or her limbs are held in chains.

Newton said that he can do without ambitions to convey a message or an obsession.

His straight-forward attitude guarantees him "fun and freedom."

He himself protects both, pleasure and his own free development, if he wants to come up to the strict rules of commercial photography.

Fashion photography, portraiture and advertising photogtraphy have a significant view of people and things. There has to be a certain seductive coolness in the whole, arrogant, mechanical protagonists with dominating additions devoid of meaning. Klaus Honnef prepared this first major show of Helmut Newton's work for Bonn. He said: "These pictures either excite rejection or love. The viewer is always certain to get involved." Protests have hailed down from feminist quarters. The complaint of sexism is not entirely unfounded, the women — a fetish. But Newton has survived this injustice. He said: "That has all changed now. Perhaps people have got used to my pictures." Men, like women, are given equal treatment, as can be seen in Bonn, both more or less without much respect.



A Newton-eye view (1980) of Hanna Schygulla as Lili Marleen in Fassbinder's film of the same name. (Photo: Catalogue)

Newton did make a qualification: he said that he liked to photograph women more than men.

Newton's cool style of photographic portraiture has been particularly successful among young people. He said: "Young people look forwards." The tricks of commercial photography in which he has self-sacrificingly become involved, with or without retouching, are avantgarde.

Newton will not have his photography linked to art in any way. "Art," he said, "is a dirty word."

A photographer who knows he is in fact a great photographer can afford such a heresy.

Werner Krüger

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 2 April 1987)

Continued from page 10

cluded under the heading "People of chaos — organised desire for destruction and frustration." His post-war canvases are slashed which adds a new dimension to the canvas surface.

But today anyone who grabs a knife and hacksaway must create new artistic connections if he or she wants to offer the public something more than a rehash of old ideas.

The exhibition shows that ideas in contemporary art play at least as important a role as the way a work is executed. Art techniques are not emphasised so much as they used to be.

It is not true that we are not all in a position to put paint to a canvas, or scratch away, as in the section headed "Scratchings," with works by Cy Twobmly, Gerhard Hoehme and others, or take a knife to a canvas, or let paint trickle and drip on a surface, as in the section headed "Surface smearers," with works by Pollock, Appel and Vedova? Or at least that's what we believe.

A person is only capable of making a complicated baroque composition or executing the precision of a work like that done by Otto Dix when having the essential basic knowledge and skill.

Basic knowledge is also essential for an understanding of modern art.

That is irksome. The eye has to be trained as well. But in no other area of art is the layman so prepared to come to conclusions than in the sphere of modern art.

Pictures have to be beautiful, they should be uplifting, excite our admiration and take us away from the routine of daily life. In short: "My child could not do that."

We look for firm ground on which to stand but we have to pave the way through "swamps" without any standards by which we can orient ourselves.

In art the word "quality" is avoided like the plague.

How then can the well-intentioned amateur find his way through this art and how can the mistrustful understand this art that they see dominated by an obscure art mafia?

This exhibition raises these questions without being pedantic.

Under the heading "Dead-beat artists" with the slogan "Rather drawn from life than painted by Picasso," there are works by Francis Bacon, Giacometti and Arnulf Rainer.

The repertoire of current judgments is presented in captions (that do not obstruct the view of the pictures and sculptures,) and include some basic information.

They are adequate for the doubtful but are inadquate for people wanting to learn more.

Taking part in the guided tour arrangements is useful and bracing.

The discussions are not conducted from the lofty heights of the initiated whose superiority leaves their listeners speechless. People are encouraged to have their say.

Of course, exhibitions of this sort do not drive determined opponents of modern art and the ignorant into museums.

But the chance visitor to a museum ever-ready with his objections has an opportunity to pause and reconsider.

The exhibition also includes works of interest to people who are truly interested in art. It is made up not only of works from the museum's store but also works on loan from the municipal museum in Schloss Mosbroich, Leverkusen, and the Wilhelm Hack Museum in Ludwigshafen. Both museums will eventally stage the Hanover exhibition.

The variety of post-war art is included in the exhibition from Immendorff's demand in paint, "Stop painting," to Vostell, Gerhard Richter and Andy Warhol (under the heading "Banalities"). The "Wild Ones" of the early 1980s are not represented, however.

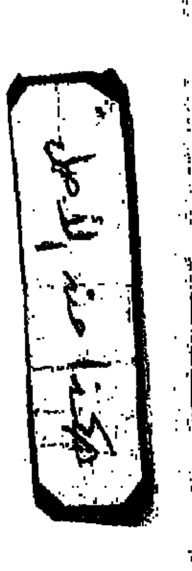
The beautiful exhibition catalogue has been produced with amusing caricatures by Detleff Kersten, including an imaginary discussion in an imaginary museum of modern art. A few small controversial points are made here, of course.

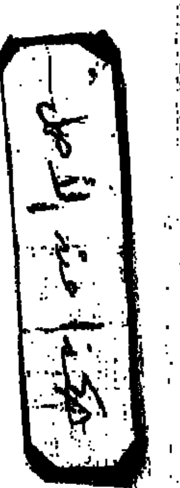
The text declares that each work of art is unique and cannot be repeated, but in another section of the catalogue there are colour reproductions of works and some pirated editions that have the blessings of the artist concerned, Warhol for instance.

This is all grist to the mill for opponents of modern art, if it is only a small lapse in this commendable undertaking.

Annette Lettau

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 11 April 1987)





■ THE ENVIRONMENT

Protection measures have potential to create 750,000 jobs, says report

Handelsblatt
WIRTSCHAFTS- UND FINANZZEITUNG

Environmental protection measures are likely to create 750,000 jobs, says a Federal Labour Office report.

The three authors say that jobs lost due to environmental protection measures would be vastly outnumbered by jobs created in industry and the public sector.

Their cautious estimate is 440,000 new jobs. Combined with a package of job-creating measures, another 250,000 to 300,000 jobs could follow in environmental protection.

So the overall number of new jobs could be between 700,000 and 750,000.

The authors, environmental economist Lutz Wicke and Erika and Werner Schulz, outline their findings in detail in the bulletin, published by the Labour Market and Vocational Research Institute, a division of the Nuremberg Labour Office.

The immediate objective, they write, must be to "activate the self-interest of all" in environmental protection.

Subsidies ought only to be paid to firms that have run into financial difficulties as a result of environmental protection measures and to companies whose additional measures improve on statutory levels.

Job creation schemes in the environmental sector could also help to reduce the number of unemployed youngsters.

As a matter of principle, the report argues, public sector investment in environmental protection ought to be increased.

This extra investment could, of course, increase the public sector borrowing requirement. So care must be taken to ensure that certain limits are not exceeded.

Any extra borrowing must be an "environmental loan limited in duration and amount." Its sole purpose must be to accelerate indispensable environmental investment, creating jobs as a labour market bonus.

The authors are convinced that environmental protection is an economic proposition.

Free use of environmental resources has led to overuse and to the manufacture of environmentally harmful products to an extent that goes beyond what is economically desirable.

Including atmospheric, soil and water pollution and noise, the cost of environmental damage is estimated to amount to at least DM100bn a year, or roughly six per cent of 1984 GNP.

Given current environmental pollution levels, every DM1m well invested in environmental protection has been shown to result in benefits worth at least DM3m.

Measures to limit tree deaths are cited. Maintenance of hill forest acreage can save millions that would otherwise need to be spent on erosion and avalanche precautions.

To take another example, if atmospheric pollution were to be reduced by statutory emission levels, smog alarms could be prevented.

That would mean an end to industrial shutdowns or go-slows, to traffic bans and to the resulting damage done to the image of a region, the economic consequences of which can be most substantial.

Environmental expenditure is about DM20bn a year, 60 per cent by the state and 40 per cent by industry.

An increase would be likely to make sound economic sense. "Effective additional environmental protection measures," the report says, "as a rule result in much greater benefits than their cost."

The report goes on to say that jobs lost — redundancies due to environmental protection considerations — must not be seen as something out of the ordinary.

Three main arguments are advanced in support of the claim that environmental protection is a job-killer. All are strictly limited in importance:

- Higher costs due to due to environmental expenditure cause redundancies in only a few, marginal firms. The authorities often make transitional provisions that help companies in a poor competitive position to hold their own.
- Competitive disadvantages in export markets due to domestic environmental regulations only apply to industries that are both under heavy price pressure in world markets and subject to environmental expenditure as a significant cost factor.

Aluminium is a case in point. German aluminium manufacturers could well forfeit any international competitive advantage they enjoy if power bills were increased on account of environmental expenditure.

But the authors feel exchange rate fluctuations can have a much greater bearing on export prospects in a number of industries than environmental expenditure, heavy though it might be in some cases.

Besides, in most export sectors quality considerations are what counts in the final analysis.

"The (German) chemical industry, which is burdened by above-average environmental expenditure, can hardly complain of difficulties in export markets — regardless of exchange rates."

- Firms are said to be unlikely to set up production facilities abroad to cut the cost of environmental expenditure at home. Investment in production capacity abroad is motivated by other factors than environmental costs.

While conceding that investment has been held back on account of environmental costs, the report says that this backlog must not be overrated.

In 1978 the Confederation of German Industry (BDI) claimed investments totalling DM56bn had been delayed by environmental restrictions. This

Continued on page 14

Rhine still convalescing after Swiss chemicals spillage

Nordwest Zeitung NWZ

The Rhine is so polluted that almost all water boards in the catchment area don't draw town-supply water directly from it.

For years, they have drawn water from wells containing a mixture of ground water and seepage from the river.

This seepage has been filtered by the soil through which it passes. However, this filtered water must still be cleaned and the process is expensive.

The river was badly polluted last year by a chemicals spillage from the Sandoz works in Basle. Flora and fauna have not fully recovered.

About 20 million people live in the Rhine catchment area. Chloride levels in Rhine water have periodically been 10 times higher than in 1930. More than half this chloride originates from potash mines in Alsace and the Moselle.

Treatment of domestic sewage was also inadequate for a long time with the result that germ and bacteria counts in river water reached dangerous levels.

It has long been known how to process water: by using ozone, chlorine, chlorine dioxide and active carbon filters.

Finding it more difficult to completely eliminate foreign bodies, Rhine water boards have been, however, forced to engage in serious basic research.

They soon found out that a combination of procedures was usually required, because of differing varieties of pollution and the wide range of substances, to make the water fit to drink.

Rhine water seeps through pebble and sand layers that serve as natural filters. So the farther apart river and well are, the more effective the filtration. Sand and subsoil strata contain micro-organisms that have purified water for thousands of years.

Their metabolism separates and stores dirt from water that seeps through.

Many substances are readily biodegradable, or at least fairly so. Others are not and are classified as non-biodegradable.

Substances in the non-degradable category are steadily increasing in number, so there is a growing risk of micro-organisms no longer succeeding in the natural cleansing operation they have carried out so well for millenia.

This particularly applies to highly toxic substances such as found their way into the Rhine from the Sandoz works and at other points along the river.

An important factor is that river bank filtrate flows much more slowly than water in the river bed. Water filtered through the banks travels between one and four metres a day, whereas free-flowing water can cover up to 120km (75 miles) a day.

So riparian micro-organisms cannot adjust to sudden extremes of pollution, with the result that heavy pollution can break up and do permanent damage to the subsoil eco-system.

Albin Andree/dpd

(Nordwest Zeitung, Oldenburg, 10 April 1987)

Water boards urge ban on pesticides

Hannoversche Allgemeine

Water boards are urging Health Minister Rita Süssmuth to ban pesticides that threaten the purity of ground water.

Random samples in various parts of the country have shown plant protective levels in ground water to exceed statutory limits. The limits, however, are not to come into force until 1989.

Water authorities feel the existing ban on pesticides in designated water conservation areas is no longer enough.

Even when used correctly toxic substances that kill weeds, insects and fungi can find their way into designated areas via ground water currents.

Their use must be banned [illegible] especially in areas where the porous [illegible] has a low humus and clay count.

The new drinking water regulations will limit the statutory level of individual pesticides and plant protectives to 0.1 micrograms per litre and any combination of them to 0.5 micrograms per litre of tap water from 1989.

Samples taken in Schleswig-Holstein and North Rhine-Westphalia have been found to contain up to 0.7 micrograms. In Bavaria concentrations of up to 2.4 micrograms have been measured.

About 80 per cent of the country's annual output of, say, 30,000 tonnes of plant protectives is used in agriculture, the remainder by smallholders, allotment-holders and private households and in public parks and gardens and storage facilities.

An estimated 100 tonnes of plant protectives a day is sprayed on fields, gardens, orchards and public parks and gardens. About 1,800 substances combining 300 different agents are on sale.

Water boards are particularly unhappy about atrazine, a weedkiller blamed, after the Sandoz Rhine pollution disaster, for the mass death of fish in the river.

An annual 300 tonnes of atrazine is said to be used in the Federal Republic, mainly by maize and sugar beet farmers and wine and tobacco growers.

They use it mainly in May and June but it can be traced in the soil for between 300 and 500 days.

Four-week trials indicate that atrazine is not biodegraded by microbes in natural waters. So herbicides in this category must be seen as a serious health hazard to the ground water.

New statutory levels for nitrate in ground water, due mainly to fertiliser, are now in force. The limit has been reduced from 90 to 50 milligrams per litre.

Some waterworks have been granted transitional periods of up to three years in which to reach the new levels.

Water authorities say the new level is exceeded by an estimated three per cent of German tap water.

They are worried that the cost of keeping nitrate counts below the statutory limit will spiral as farmers use more and more fertiliser.

Water boards feel an environmental levy on water rates is unsuitable as a means of combating ground water pollution. The levy provides farmers with no incentive to cut down their use of fertiliser and liquid manure.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 15 April 1987)

■ MEDICINE

Hope that deaf actress's Oscar will amplify the sounds of silence

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Maybe Marlee Matlin, with her Oscar-winning performance in *God's Forgotten Children*, will draw public attention to the deaf.

The young American acts out on the screen her own story. She lost her hearing as a baby.

Deafness poses special problems because it is invisible. The blind or wheelchair-bound are likelier to be treated with consideration: their affliction can be seen.

The deaf have a particularly hard time at work or as students — although most deaf teenagers can only dream of studying.

Only one in 70 out of just over 10,000 deaf and hard-of-hearing schoolchildren in the Federal Republic pass their *Abitur*, the school-leaving certificate that is the passport to university.

A year ago about 100 deaf and hard-of-hearing students set up a national working group that now enjoys the support of the Foundation for the Promotion of Gifted Physically Handicapped People.

The foundation has held a symposium in Austria for the deaf, the presidents of their organisations in Austria, the Federal Republic of Germany and Switzerland, headmasters and staff at schools for the deaf and leading research scientists.

One participant in three at Hohenems in Vorarlberg, the westernmost Austrian province bordering on Lake Constance, was deaf.

The gathering spent three days clarifying what might, to the uninitiated, seem to be a superfluous methodical dispute: reconciling lip-reading and sign language.

It is a dispute that only makes sense when viewed against the background of two centuries of education theory.

In the West, especially in America, sign language has gained the upper hand, whereas in Germany and German-speaking countries lip-reading and speech learnt by lip-reading are seen as the best means of enabling the deaf to lead independent lives.

Sign language — even as an accompaniment to lip-reading — has only been officially recognised in Germany for about a decade.

Research in the Federal Republic was going ahead at full pace, said Professor Kroehnert of Hamburg, Professor Schulte of Heidelberg and Professor Jussen of Cologne.

In Cologne students were taking a first look at sign language. In Hamburg an encyclopaedia of sign language was being compiled. Two out of a projected seven volumes had so far been published.

In Switzerland a start has been made by the Zürich school for the deaf, the aim being to standardise sign language in German-speaking countries. The importance of standardisation is easily illustrated.

In America the sign for "aircraft" is a downward gesture of the flat of the hand; in Germany it is a wing-shaped gesture by both hands.

The deaf were clearly in favour of sign language as the surest means of communicating among themselves.

At schools for the deaf "hopeless confusion" was reported to prevail, with frequent clashes between supporters of the old and the new methods.

Herr Czempin, president of the German League for the Deaf, rejected criticism of sign language as an accompaniment to lip-reading and speech. "We, the deaf, need sign language as a bridge to understanding," he said.

The deaf live in two worlds. In the company of people whose hearing is unimpaired they can only hold their own once they have achieved a certain facility in speech.

In their own, soundless world where sight is the crucial sense sign language is the normal mode of communication.

Interpreters showed at the Hohenems conference that the two could be combined, noiselessly yet unmistakably imitating the speaker's words while emphasising and accompanying them by sign language.

They occasionally had to interpret what deaf speakers said, most of whom spoke so unclearly and with such difficulty that they could barely be understood.

Few reach the facility of Roland Zeh, a 26-year-old medical student from Freiburg, who has learnt how to speak normally again after losing his hearing at the age of seven when he suffered from meningitis.

He told the conference what enormous effort was required to lip-read. He estimated that lip-readers had to guess over half what was said to them.

Only a handful of deaf trainees, people with great powers of combination and concentration, succeed in coming by appropriate vocational training.

Yet the remainder, an estimated 60,000 in the Federal Republic, not including those who grow deaf in old age, need not despair.

There are training facilities for the deaf in 126 trades. The most popular ones are dental mechanical; draughting; making clothing; turning; and carpentry.

Herr Lutz, head of training at MAN, an engineering works, in Salzgitter, explained arrangements at his works.

Hard-of-hearing trainees regularly served apprenticeships in Salzgitter and hired as skilled workers on completing their training. At present MAN had 15 apprentices in this category.

They had been most successful, having been found to be extremely gifted at combination. The firm had devised illustrated training manuals for them. That, Herr Lutz said, could be done in other trades too.

The Foundation for the Promotion of Gifted Physically Handicapped People has invested DM1.3m since 1982 in grants for 420 individuals and a variety of projects.

Projects include transposing into Braille the composer Carl Orff's method of teaching music.

Brigitte Mohr

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 13 April 1987)

Aid for mentally ill and their work problems

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

A model psycho-social advice bureau has been set up at the careers training centre of the Rehabilitation Foundation in Heidelberg to help solve problems at work faced by people as a result of mental illness.

It is the first facility of its kind offering job-related advice and assistance to sufferers from mental illness and is run with the aid of an initial two-year grant from the regional welfare association.

Amendments to legislation for the handicapped have made possible psycho-social support for the mentally ill at work or in vocational training.

The immediate objective is to help prevent the client from being sacked or to work out alternatives if dismissal is imminent.

The bureau's team of advisers consists of a psychologist, a rehabilitation and job consultant and a social worker.

They try to help working people who are classified as handicapped by virtue of mental illness or a combination of mental and physical handicaps to cope with resulting problems at work.

The bureau is where to go for help if, for instance, you are off work frequently or for an unusually long time due to mental illness or if you have difficulty in keeping up with your work or psycho-social trouble at work or in private life.

The bureau tries to help solve problems "in the round" by means of an approach that isn't merely limited to the client. It includes his firm and entire environment in a bid to arrive at a solution to the problems.

Provided the client is agreeable talks are held, or sought, with the employer, with the works council and with staff convenors for the handicapped.

The bureau, set up in February, is at present helping 30 clients. Their main problems are the threat of dismissal and other difficulties at work.

Frequently, says counsellor Günter Hassert, neither the boss nor workmates have the slightest idea of the client's difficulties. He and his colleagues try, jointly with the client and his firm, to arrive at a solution.

The bureau serves Heidelberg and environs, an area with a population of roughly 600,000. Roughly 10 per cent can be classified as handicapped.

Advice is given free of charge. Therapeutic treatment is not provided.

The project is guided by Professor Albert Mühlhum of the social work department at the Rehabilitation Foundation's training college.

Ingeborg Bördlein

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 8 April 1987)

■ SECURITY

A sergeant tells what a GI's life is like in Berlin — after the disco bomb

SüddeutscheZeitung

Life in Germany for Sergeant Josef Ferrare began with a bang — literally. On 15 March last year he arrived in the divided city and went on a two-week orientation course to learn about Berlin and its special status and also to pick up a few words of German.

Sergeant Ferrare had been in his post in the editorial office of the American services magazine, *Berlin Observer*, (circulation: 7,000) for all of 19 days when all hell broke loose: a bomb went off at a discotheque frequented by American soldiers called La Belle. Two people were killed and another died later from injuries. Many GIs were among the 230 injured.

Among the injured were soldiers Sergeant Ferrare had got to know during his orientation course. He visited them in hospital. Most were single coloured soldiers.

The *Berlin Observer*, of course, reported the affair in detail: the attack itself, the reaction of the police, of the Berlin people and the city administration, the soldiers themselves and the American army.

After the attack, safety measures were introduced for the 6,500 GIs in Berlin: a curfew was introduced outside the camps from midnight to 6 am; the already strong military headquarters control were further strengthened; MP patrols through the south-west Berlin residential areas for soldiers with their families were stepped up.

In the middle of April after the American attack on Libya, the Berlin forces were put on a state of readiness only one level below readiness for war.

The *Berlin Observer* reported that in the residential areas outside camps, families were on the lookout for anything suspicious, people or vehicles for example; at night doors were locked and defective locks and lights were replaced immediately. The crisis intensified the relationship between families and the MP patrols.

But Ferrare says that otherwise there have been no other prolonged effects from the disco attack.

Indeed, the *Observer* reported that no one wanted a siege mentality. No families were sent home, even under pressure from fretting relatives.

There were concessions, it is true: an air force air show at the American airbase at Tempelhof and a ball for Americans and Berliners were both cancelled.

But four months later a German-American fete did take place.

Now, a year after the attack, the life of GIs proceeds normally. It is not in the American mentality to let fears and worries about what might happen to determine lifestyle.

Captain Kevin Born says: "You can't let terrorists put you out of stride. That is their aim."

He admits that Berlin is a prestige post for the military because of the crisis over the Wall and the blockade. There are always more applications than there are positions. The fact that the Western part of the city is demarcated by a wall doesn't seem to put anyone off — although many Americans are used to the big, wide-open spaces. Last year, the *Observer* even organised a marathon run around the Wall.

GIs and their families make good use of travel opportunities. Travelling by private car to north Germany is circuitous because the one border crossover point they are allowed to use is placed awkwardly.

But every day, "duty trains" head off from Berlin towards Frankfurt or Bremerhaven. Americans and their families can, just like British and French servicemen and families, travel on these trains free of charge. No wonder Captain Born says being in Berlin is like being on a holiday he otherwise could not afford.

Captain and Born and his wife actively seek contact with Germans and are friendly with a German couple who teach English at a Berlin *Gymnasium* (secondary school geared towards university).

Captain Born doesn't just want to learn about Germany and the Germans, he also wants to pass on something of America to those young Germans he meets to get around stereotype and prejudice.

But not all soldiers want, or even can, become so involved. Many don't even manage to get out of the "American Ghetto", as it is called in Clay Allee.

One soldier said: "Wherever the American soldier goes, he takes a piece of America with him." He said that as he took a visitor across Truman Plaza, a shopping centre where only soldiers and State department employees can shop. Payment is in dollars. The GI can buy here what an American housewife can be buy at any shopping centre in America.

The disco La Belle itself doesn't exist any more. The bombing and its victims are remembered only by a wooden cross decorated with plastic flowers outside the former disco location on the ground floor of a multi-storey office building.

La Belle's owner, Enzo Dinuno, has opened a new bar in another area — and it is used by GIs.

But the case is not closed. A Syrian called Ahmed Hasi, serving a 14-year sentence for a bomb attack on the German-Arab Society in Berlin last year, now faces allegations involving La Belle as well.

A trail to Genoa at the beginning of this year led to a letter being found which referred to the attack.

Berlin authorities will only confirm that investigations in Italy and Britain have taken place. In Britain, Hasi's brother, Nezar Hindawi, is serving a life sentence for an attempt to get a bomb on board an Israeli aircraft in London.

Marianne Heuwagen

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, 3 April 1987)

Another wave of attacks 'being planned'



Calm before the storm . . . Gerhard Boeden. (Photo: Sven Simon)

Germany is on the brink of a new wave of terrorism, according to the new head of the counter espionage agency (*Verfassungsschutz*), Gerhard Boeden.

Boeden told senior security specialists that the agency was stepping up operations against terrorism. Surveillance was being increased.

He was speaking at an occasion to welcome him to the agency after 2 days in retirement. He had been deputy head of the BKA, the criminal police.

Then Defence Minister Manfred Wörner appointed *Verfassungsschutz* chief Ludwig-Holger Pfahls to a state secretary post in the Defence Ministry and asked Boeden to take over.

In his speech, Pfahls said the defection to East Germany of a senior officer, Hansjoachim Tiedge in 1985 plunged the agency into the worst crisis of its existence. It was formed 37 years ago.

But, said Pfahls, the agency was now back in gear. Last year a record number of 38 arrests had been made.

Boeden said that the present calm was only the calm before the storm. The indications were that the Red

Bremer Nachrichten

Army Faction (RAF) was preparing for a macabre "jubilee" coup to mark the decade since three public figures were assassinated: federal prosecutor Buback, bank Ponti and employers' organisation head Hans-Martin Schleyer.

Bonn Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann said that people who rejected the principle of rights of the majority and who openly called for the law to be broken sought a new constitution.

He did not mention the Greens by name, but observers read the speech as a warning to them. Afterwards there were questions about whether the Interior Ministry wanted to hint at a check on whether the Greens were unconstitutional or not.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 10 April 1987)

New across-border, anti-terror deal signed by Paris, Bonn



German and French police are stepping up across-border cooperation against terrorism. Cooperative measures have now been spelled out in detail following talks between Bonn Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann and the Paris Interior Minister, Charles Pasqua.

Until now, cooperation has been based only on informal arangements and nonbinding declarations of intent.

Now, German "wanted" posters will be able to be pinned up in France and French ones in Germany. Terror experts will be swapped as liaison officers so information can be rapidly passed on. Liaison officers are already used between both countries for investigating serious crime.

The deal worked out by the ministers means that in third countries where both France and Germany have liaison officers working with local forces, they will lend each other support. In third countries where Germany has liaison officer but not France, the French police will gain access to information. And vice versa.

The German criminal police, the BKA, has officers in Thailand, Pakistan, Morocco, Cyprus, Peru, Bolivia, Brazil and Italy. It is soon to have men in the United States and Holland.

The new arrangement envisages an exchange of specialist investigators for certain classes of crime such as vehicle thefts on an internationally organised basis.

The way is to be cleared for forces on both sides of the border to get direct access to one another's computer data banks.

Cross-border operations are a priority topic for specialists in both countries.

At the moment, a chase ends at the border and the time lost in requesting the other force to act works only to the advantage of the quarry.

The new agreement still leaves many difficulties unresolved. One is caused by different judicial and police systems. In a recent case involving the French terror group, Action Directe, there were delays because of a question involving French jurisdiction.

A clause in the agreement drawn up by Zimmermann and Pasqua says that cooperation must be subordinate to national law in each case.

Horst Zimmermann

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 8 April 1987)

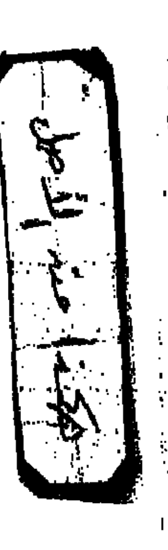
Continued from page 12

explanation was found, on closer scrutiny, to be accurate only in respect of investment totalling DM2.8bn.

The list of frustrated projects compiled by the BDI included 92 that had long been given official approval but were shelved — for whatever reasons — by the companies concerned.

In 800 cases companies had either submitted incomplete applications or failed to meet application deadlines.

(Handelsblatt, Düsseldorf, 15 April 1987)



■ SPORT

How the doctors put the lactic back into galactic for a star cyclist

DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT

World cross-country cycling champion Klaus-Peter Thaler nearly was a spectator at this year's event: he had begun to lose stamina and felt so tired after racing that he was considering, at the advanced old age of 37, retiring.

That was last November. Then he met Professor Heinz Liesen of the Cologne institute for sports medicine and blood circulation.

Professor Liesen examined Thaler's blood and checked his lactate level, that is, the amount of lactic acid salts in the body.

The professor made his findings, Thaler's training programme was completely changed — and two months later, he was back to top form.

In January, in Czechoslovakia, he became cross-country world champion for the second time.

Thaler, 37, now has a better lactate rating, reflecting his ability to take stress, than he had 10 years ago.

Thaler said: "The doctors themselves were amazed that a sportsman as relatively old as me could improve performance so much."

Professor Liesen dismisses the idea that athletes are turned into robots by assessment methods of this sort. He is convinced of the effectiveness of correcting training for top sportsmen and women by determining the lactic acid levels.

Most of his colleagues specialising in sports medicine think the same.

Liesen said: "Certainly we have not achieved, nor made the most of, everything that is theoretically possible."

He is in agreement with his colleague from Freiburg, Josef Keul, Boris Becker's personal doctor.

Keul said that basically the lactic acid level must be examined every one or two two weeks for top athletes during certain phases of a training programme by the famous "earlobe prick" to control form and make corrections to training — as is done in East Germany.

Former East German athlete and world-class backstroke swimmer Frank Hoffmeister said: "In certain training phases the earlobe was pricked two or three times a day. I could not bear it, but you could not complain." He came over to the Federal Republic in 1984 and now lives in Bochum.

In his experience in West German competitive sport everything is "a little singular." Hoffmeister puts his faith in his own intuitions more than in lactate production diagnosis.

He said: "Fundamentally I trust the signals my body gives me. Lactate assessment is only a scientific side effect."

In East Germany there are about 2,500 experts in sports medicine of one sort or another whose main aim is to chase after medals.

Jürgen Tanneberger, trainer for the East German women's swimming squad, gives little away.

He says that lactate assessment was "only an aid for a trainer who can direct his sportsmen and women through his instincts and experience."

Swimming ace Michael Gross and tennis star Boris Becker both have their lactate levels controlled.

Keul says Becker's lactate level means that under stress he can keep going, for example in the fifth set of a hard match.

(Many digestive disorders originate from bacteria causing putrifaction within the intestines, detrimental to health. Lactic bacilli fight noxious bacilli which is conducive to good health.)

Tennis is not regarded as typical of sports that call for considerable staying power. But tennis player Steffi Graf has caused amazement among sports doctors.

Professor Keul said: "She has assessments which can be compared with those of a female 800-metre runner. She could run the 800 metres in two minutes and a few seconds."

Trainers caused a fuss when Keul and Liesen applied their lactate tests to highly-paid footballers and claimed they were not as fit as they should be.

Liesen says much football training is wrong.

Gerhard Hetz, former world-class swimmer and Rhenania Köln trainer, maintains that trainers should not ignore the assistance that can be given to training by lactate tests.

For many years Hetz has worked with a combination of "lactate and optimum performance."

Experience is all-important for him. He said: "We have re-arranged our training programme. The first really to profit from this was swimmer Rainer Henkel with his two world champion titles."

No one in Europe has been involved so deeply and for such a long time with lactate testing for competitive sportsmen and women than Jan Olbrecht, a Belgian who is an assistant at the Cologne sports medicine institute.

Within the space of five years he took blood from the earlobes of 20,000 sportsmen and woman, 6,000 times with swimmers alone.

For about 50 years the medical world has known about the influence of lactic acid levels on performance, but the first to use this knowledge for highly competitive sport were the East Germans.

Professor Alois Mader recalls that East German competitive sport experts heard a training discussion at a light athletics meeting in Yugoslavia on the "hydrogen ion concentrations" in track athlete Vera Mikuliez.

For the first time she ran the 800 metres under two minutes. At the time Mader was working with the sport medical service in East Germany.

When the East German experts got back to Leipzig they promptly put a research programme into operation.

They bought analysis equipment from countries in the West or had it produced in East Germany.

Swimming and athletics were the first disciplines to be subjected to the pilot tests.

Mader left East Germany in 1974, but he is in no doubt that the success and sports knowledge and training method lead that East Germany has enjoyed for many years has been attributable to training control through determining lactate levels.

He said: "It is possible to discover faster and more efficiently which training methods will give the best results. This accounts for the very considerable lead enjoyed by East German competitive sports, and this had to be concealed from the competition."

Former Bonn swimming trainer Michael Lohberg and his Norwegian colleague Dr Orjan Madsen are making use of the fact that the Americans are lagging at least five years behind in international lactate test application.

A good business sense has encouraged them to set up the Malo Institute in St Croix in the Virgin Islands. They have acquired computer analysis equipment valued at 25,000 dollars for their German-Norwegian training programme, and they have ten years of lactate analysis behind them.

Their best clients are trainers and swimmers from the American mainland.

They pay 200 dollars for a lactate test by Lohberg and Madsen who provide the American athletes with a guide to improve their competitive sport performance. The business is doing very well.

Madsen said confidently: "Unlike Europeans the Americans are willing to pay for their sport."

He should not overlook the fact that American swimmers will have won their medals at the Olympic Games in Seoul in 1988 with the assistance of German training methods enabling them to get the very best results.

Ernst Dieter Schmickler

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, Hamburg, 12 April 1987)

Mystery over athlete's death

Mystery still surrounds the death of German Olympic track-and-field athlete Birgit Dressel, 26, following treatment for lumbago. Dressel was ninth in the 1984 Olympic heptathlon in Los Angeles and fourth in the European championships in Stuttgart last year. A post-mortem has been less than conclusive.

West Germany's sporting world was shocked by the news that track-and-field athlete Birgit Dressel had died.

The provisional results of a post mortem have increased the mystery.

Her father has issued a summons for "failure to give assistance with the result of death."

The Mainz public prosecutor's office produced a statement which said that "presumably the cause of death was anaphylactic poisoning," probably caused by an incompatibility of medication given her when she was admitted to Mainz University Clinic.

The public prosecutor's office said that it would only be possible to give a definitive cause of death when all the information available had been assessed.

The prosecutor is not conducting an investigation against any one person. He is simply trying to establish the cause of death.

Doctors define "anaphylactic" as meaning the body's hyper-sensitivity to foreign bodies.

Foreign bodies of this sort could be medication as well as normal poison,



Did she receive incompatible medication? . . . Birgit Dressel. (Photo: dpa)

such as the poison injected into the blood circulation by an apparently harmless bee sting.

The extent of an individual's sensitivity reactions differs from person to person.

In extreme cases, as with Birgit Dressel, it can cause a breakdown of the body's mechanisms such as the circulatory system.

Professor Jüngst of the Mainz University Clinic said that many competitive sportsmen and woman were inclined to chronic reactions to foreign bodies and that there was a wide range of basic conditions for such a reaction.

It is not yet know if this was what happened in the case of Dressel.

Doctors at the clinic say that excessive reactions such as seems to have happened in this case are rare.

Such reactions can be accentuated by another illness, by a simple cold for instance.

The clinic says that in the last 13 hours of her life, from the moment she was admitted, she was given the best treatment.

In the surgical ward, where attempts were made to diagnose the causes of her pains, she was immediately put into intensive care after her circulatory system collapsed.

Experienced anaesthetists had done everything possible, including artificial respiration.

It is now important to establish what sort of medication was administered before she was admitted to the hospital.

It has been suggested that she had been given three injections as treatment for lumbago.

It must also be established whether before or after the lumbago attack she had been given some other medication incompatible with those she was already receiving from her doctor.

Günther Leicher

(Allgemeine Zeitung, Mainz, 14 April 1987)